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# Meadowlark

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### **President's Message**

When Bob Erickson, Al Stokie, and Paul Sweet discovered a Red-cockaded Woodpecker in Illinois Beach State Park on 19 August 2000, they had second thoughts about breaking the news to the rest of the birding community. If the bird couldn't be relocated, would anyone believe them? This bird was ranked fourth in a list of the all-time most astonishing vagrant birds within North America. (S.G. Mlodinow, "Aves Inexpectata: Amazing Vagrants within North America," *Birders Journal*, vol. 10, no. 3, pp. 146-157, June and July 2001.) Evidence that will convince others of a positive identification in such an extreme case must be very, very solid.

Fortunately for Bob, Al, and Paul, their task became simpler when the woodpecker stayed put for four months, and a large number of people were able to study it, make notes, and take numerous photographs. But at the time of the initial sighting, they couldn't know that the bird would stay. They understood what they observed and recorded right then might be the whole basis upon which others could judge whether a Red-cockaded Woodpecker visited Illinois.

Chances are you've been in one, and more likely many, situations in which either you were trying to convince someone else of the identity of a bird you observed, or someone else was trying to convince you. I've been on both sides of these discussions and expect I will be again. Sometimes I'm convincing; sometimes I'm not. Sometimes I get convinced; sometimes I don't. So it goes.

Regardless of the outcome, and even regardless of whether I'm the convincer or the convincee, I often learn something during one of these discussions. The information I gain helps me be a better birder. It focuses my thinking about not only the rarities but also about what there is to know about the common birds in our area. And it prepares me to make better observations when I find myself in similar situations.

This learning and sharing of information is important, and it happens most readily when the focus is on what it takes to be convinced, and not whether the original observer was right or wrong. The observed facts have already been logged; they can't be changed. The issue is only whether they are sufficient to be convincing, and also how much we can learn from the experience.

So, suppose you find yourself convinced about a bird sighting someone is describing. Think of your role as that of informing your fellow birder what would convince you, what you would have looked for, what the critical issues are, and why you think the sighting is unusual. Show them how to convince you, maybe or maybe not for that sighting, but certainly for those yet to come. And if you find yourself in the position of not having convinced someone of your observation, remember that doesn't necessarily mean you were wrong. Instead, it's an opportunity to learn what would make your case more convincing. Through the sharing and debating of bird sightings, in a friendly and non-confrontational manner, we as a birding community can improve our collective observational skills.

Bob, Paul, and Al were ready to make a convincing case for an astounding Red-cockaded Woodpecker sighting. We can all work together to improve the odds that the next folks who find themselves looking at a mega-rarity are prepared as well.

— Geoff Williamson

Visit our website at: <http://www.chias.org/ios>

## Letter from the Editor

Karen Forcum's best Illinois birding experience in the past decade was when she observed Greater Prairie-Chickens on their booming grounds. Here's what she wrote about her first encounter with the prairie-chicken:

"In the distance we could hear the rumblings of a thunderstorm and outside on the prairie in front of our blind the male prairie chickens danced to entice the females. It seemed like we were transported back in time to a day before civilization plowed away the prairie. As the storm approached, the chickens ceased their mating ritual and sought shelter, as did we. I felt an urge to cry and mingle my tears with the raindrops. Tears for a lost past and tears for a remnant of the past created by man who had destroyed the past."

Karen, who lives in Shelby County, just e-mailed me her responses to a birding questionnaire I posed on the Illinois list serve — IBET. The questionnaire sought comments from IOS members on our coming 10th anniversary issue of *Meadowlark*, and Karen was the first to reply. Her response seemed to encapsulate all that is true about birding in Illinois — the inexplicable feeling of seeing a rare bird and the haunting knowledge that if we don't protect and enhance what's left, we will lose some intangible part of ourselves.

That's how I feel about being part of IOS. But we also want to know what you think and feel about IOS and birding in Illinois. So, please take the time to answer these few questions and send the answers to me so I can add your thoughts to our 10th anniversary issue.

All I need is your name, how long you've been birding, your address, the best Illinois bird you've seen in the past 10 years (detailed descriptions welcome), your nemesis Illinois bird, where you think birding is headed in the next decade, how IOS has influenced you and what your favorite article is from *Meadowlark*. Send replies to: Sheryl De Vore, sdevore@voyager.net or 967 Braeburn Road, Mundelein, Illinois 60060. And get ready for our celebration!

— Sheryl De Vore

# MEADOWLARK

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## Articles

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Illinois' First Red-cockaded Woodpecker 42  
(*Picoides borealis*)

— Paul Sweet

The Effect of Land Practices 46  
on Waterfowl in Illinois

— Stephen P. Havera

Seventh Report of the Illinois 52  
Ornithological Records Committee

— Douglas P. Stotz

---

## Departments

---

Seasonal Highlights: 59  
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Bird Finding Guide: Little Known, 60  
Overlooked or Forgotten Birding Spots

Breeding Season in Central Illinois:  
Fox Ridge State Park, Lincoln Trail State Park,  
Mill Creek County Park, and Fairmont Quarry  
— Robert Chapel

News from the Literature 64  
Forest Fragmentation

A Bird By Any Other Name 65  
— Jim Landing

Fall Field Notes: The 2000 Fall Migration 66  
— Robert Chapel

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## In our next issue

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Details and superb photos regarding the state's first and second accepted records of Long-tailed Jaeger.

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## About our cover

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Michael L.P. Retter created the cover drawing of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker, a species documented for the first time in the state the summer of 2000. See page 42 for details.

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# Illinois' First Red-cockaded Woodpecker

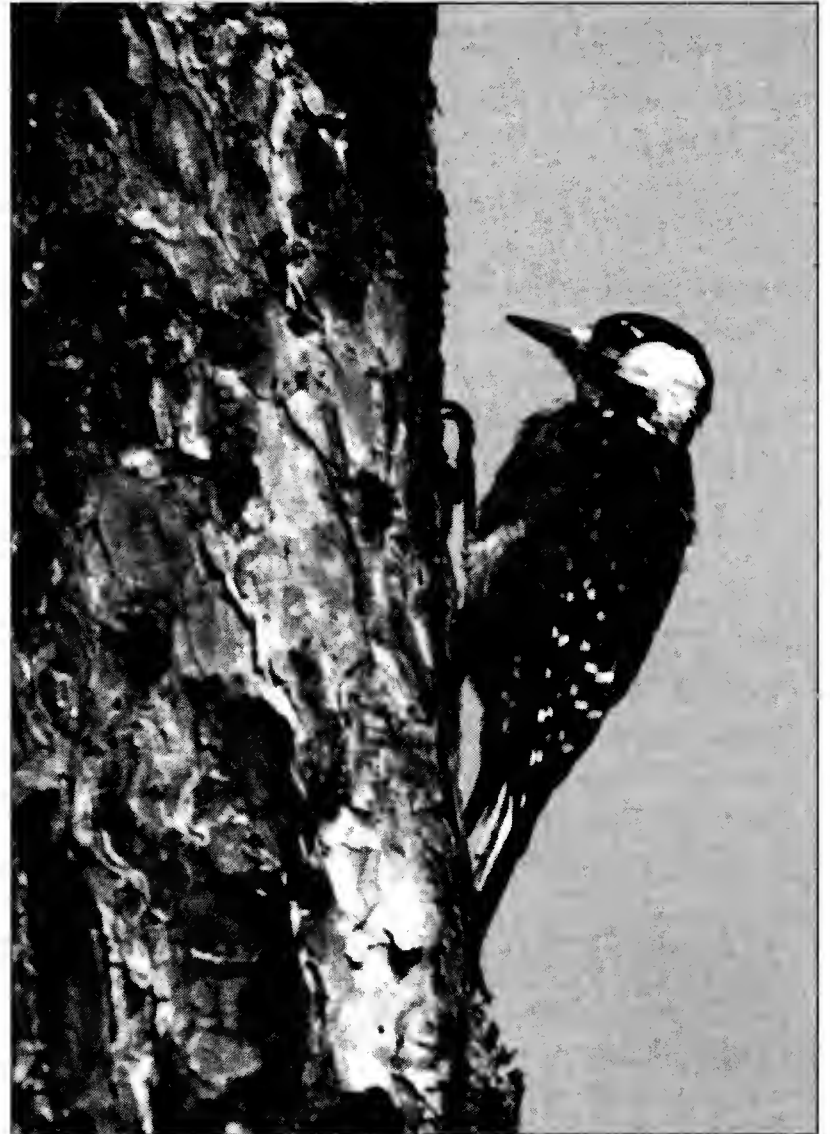
by Paul W. Sweet

The morning of 19 August 2000 started out rather poorly. I had overslept, and finally managed to meet Al Stokie and Robert Erickson at 8:15 a.m. at Illinois Beach State Park in Lake County. They had started the day at Waukegan Beach looking for shorebirds and hadn't seen anything particularly exciting. Illinois Beach was similarly unproductive, with only a few Sanderlings.

On the way back, we had just reached the junction of the Dead River and the Dunes trails when Erickson heard a Rose-breasted Grosbeak. We changed direction to follow the sound, and a cuckoo flew across the trail. Stokie managed to get a good look at it, but it jumped to another tree before Erickson and I could spot it. While we were trying to relocate the cuckoo, a small woodpecker hopped up the base of the trunk and into our field of view. I immediately called it a Downy, without much thought, but a second look proved me wrong. The back appeared barred, and the face showed too much white.

If you were to ask a group of Illinois birders to predict the next few additions to the state's avifauna, all of the suggestions would probably share some traits. They would most likely be widespread, common within their range, and strongly migratory (Walters and Engel 2000). A bird that matched none of those criteria would probably not cross a birder's mind, yet when Erickson said, "Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*)" he showed no excitement in his voice. It was just a general impression. At that point, however, we began looking much more carefully. What had initially appeared to be a very white face turned out to be entirely white auriculars, joining with the white at the side of the neck. The back was narrowly barred white and dark brown. At this point Erickson and I turned to look at each other, and agreed that it certainly looked like a Red-cockaded, a federally endangered species. Stokie, standing slightly behind us, agreed, although there was a certain unhappiness in his tone. He was already imagining the response from the birding community.

However, he was the one who insisted if we were going to report a bird like this, we had better scrutinize every feather, so we followed the bird for 15 minutes, observing it as it foraged low along the



*Red-cockaded Woodpecker. First State Record. 7 September 2000. Illinois Beach State Park. Lake County. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.*

trunks of the black oaks (*Quercus velutina*) growing in that part of the park. We observed the bird for perhaps eight to ten minutes before watching it fly south toward the pines south of the Dead River. During that time we observed the following field marks, taken from my notes, other written descriptions, and photographs.

## Description

The bird was a small woodpecker, between a Hairy and a Downy in size. The crown and nape were solid glossy black, continuing onto the shoulders. The cheeks were fairly bright white. The back edge of the left cheek was sharply bordered by the black nape, but the same border on the right cheek was ragged or mottled. There was a small white mark





Red-cockaded Woodpecker. First State Record. 7 September 2000. Illinois Beach State Park. Lake County. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.



In its search for insects, the Red-headed Woodpecker turned its head 180 degrees to get a better look under the bark. Photo taken 6 October 2000 at Illinois Beach State Park in Lake County by Eric Walters.

above and behind each eye. There was a black mustachial mark, not quite reaching the nape. The back was barred black and white, and the wing coverts were black with many small white spots. The flanks were white streaked with black, and the undersides were white to the extent that we could see. The tail was black, with several outer feathers on either side white. The feet were black. Although we didn't note the legs at the time, later observations by numerous people showed the bird was not banded.

We did not observe any red plumage on the bird, and since then photos have confirmed the absence of a red "cockade" behind the eye, indicating the bird was a female. David B. Johnson spent several hours at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago examining 52 specimens of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, and concluded the bird was not a juvenile (personal communication.). Others have suggested the contrast between blackish-brown remiges (as revealed in photos) and blackish-brown wing coverts indicated a second-year bird, but the age of the bird can only be considered uncertain.

After lunch and a few phone calls, we returned to the area to try to relocate the bird. In spite of adding several more observers, however, we were unable to find it again. The same applied the next day, when several hopeful people visited the park. The bird was not seen again until 24 August 2001, when Eric Walters spotted it in the south pines section of the park.

Although this area is normally open by special permit only, the nature of this sighting convinced park manager Bob Grosso and biologists Susan Wright and Bill Wengelewski to issue permits to anyone desiring to see the bird. Thanks to this generous decision, a week after we had first spotted the bird, more than 50 birders had added it to their Illinois list. By the end of the year, the park had issued over 400 permits. Several hundred people observed it, including personnel from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and several obtained excellent photographs as well.

#### Distribution and Status

Despite the name *borealis*, Red-cockaded Woodpeckers are endemic to the southeastern United States, breeding from southeastern Oklahoma, southern Arkansas, eastern Tennessee and Kentucky, and southeastern Virginia south locally to eastern Texas, the Gulf coast and southern Florida. Until recently, they were also found in southern Maryland, northern Arkansas, and southern Missouri (AOU 1998). North of this range, the species has been reliably recorded in New Jersey, where a specimen collected at Hoboken prior to 1866 (Leck 1984); in Ohio, where a specimen was collected at Columbus on 15 March

1872; and another photographed in Hocking County in southeastern Ohio from 22 April to 4 May 1975 (Peterjohn 1989). Although listed by many sources as accidental in Pennsylvania, the species is considered hypothetical because the only documented specimen, said to have been collected at Philadelphia in 1961, has been lost (McWilliams and Brauning 2000).

The Red-cockaded Woodpecker requires extensive stands of large, mature pines, with a sparse understory. This requirement produces two potential threats to the species' future. First, large pines are extremely valuable for timber, and as a result much of the original habitat has been cleared. Second, the sparse or grassy understory is naturally maintained by frequent fires. Fire prevention efforts allow a denser growth, eventually making the habitat unsuitable for the woodpeckers. These problems, with a resulting decrease in population, resulted in the Red-cockaded Woodpecker being placed on the federally endangered species list in 1970. Despite protection, the species has continued to decline, and populations in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia are nearly gone, if not already extirpated.

### **Dispersal in Red-cockaded Woodpeckers**

The precarious status and normal distribution of this species raises an obvious question: Where did our bird come from? The nearest population, in eastern Kentucky, is approximately 650 km away, in a straight line. But our bird was not banded, and the small population in Kentucky was entirely color-banded (and, except for one male, recently re-introduced from elsewhere). Our bird must have come from somewhere even farther.

Red-cockaded Woodpeckers do regularly undertake long-distance movements. Dispersals up to 100 km have been recorded on a number of occasions, by both immature and adult birds. Conner et al (1997) mentioned a single dispersal of 338 km, from Arkansas to Louisiana. However, the Illinois Beach State Park woodpecker must have come from nearly twice that far, probably more, across large areas of



*Red-cockaded Woodpecker below its roost hole at Illinois Beach State Park in Lake County. 27 August 2000. Photo by Richard Biss.*

unsuitable habitat. Conner et al (1997) did suggest that low population density may lead to increased dispersal distance, as individuals continue to travel until they locate a suitable breeding colony. Perhaps a bird dispersing from a northern colony could continue north reaching Illinois Beach State Park.

Be that as it may, though, this individual eventually decided enough was enough. After an apparent epic journey, "our" Red-cockaded Woodpecker remained in the pines at Illinois Beach State Park throughout the fall. It was last seen on 10 December 2000, when Alan Stokie and Robert Erickson observed it. Heavy snow on 11 December put an end to casual forays into the pines, but thorough searches on 31 December 2000 and 1 January 2001 (the date of the Waukegan CBC) and 7 January 2001 failed to produce the bird. Given the harsh weather during the



*Red-cockaded Woodpecker entering its roost hole at Illinois Beach State Park in Lake County, 27 August 2000. Photo by Richard Biss.*



*Red-cockaded Woodpecker searching for food at Illinois Beach State Park in Lake County, 27 August 2000. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.*

last half of December, it seems likely this southern bird perished here in Illinois. Still, its presence here delighted hundreds of birders, and created a fall where, with a little luck, it was possible to see a Rough-legged Hawk and a Red-cockaded Woodpecker in the same day.

### **Acknowledgments**

Thanks go to Douglas Stotz, David B. Johnson, and Alan Stokie for reviewing drafts of this paper. A special thanks must also go to the Illinois Beach State Park staff, particularly Robert Grosso, Susan Wright, and Bill Wengelewski, for cordially permitting birders, researchers, and biologists to enter the nature preserve in the Park in search of this avian megarrarity and federally endangered species. Without their issuing special permits to observe this vagrant pine-barren specialist woodpecker, many would not have been able to add a new state species to their lists.

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# The Effect of Land Practices on Waterfowl in Illinois

by Stephen P. Havera

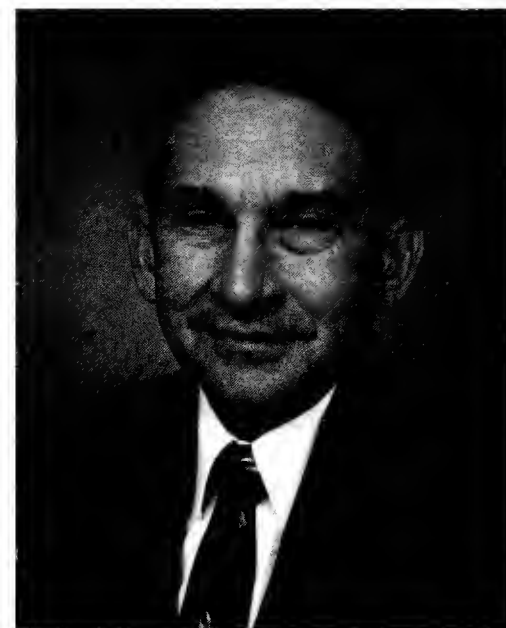
Waterfowl habitat includes wetlands, deepwater habitats, and areas with water levels manipulated for management (for example, agricultural land and bottomland forests.) Wetlands are generally defined as lands where water saturation is the dominant factor that determines both soil development and the plant and animal communities living in the soil as well as on its surface. Thus, wetlands are transitional lands between terrestrial and aquatic systems, areas covered by shallow water or where the water table is near or at the surface. Technically, wetlands must have at least one of three characteristics: 1) the land supports, at least periodically, predominantly hydrophytic plants; 2) the substrate is composed of predominantly undrained hydric soils; 3) the substrate is non-soil and saturated or covered by shallow water sometime during the growing season each year (Wilén and Frayer 1990). Thus, marshes, swamps, ponds, potholes, bogs, sloughs, wet meadows, mud flats, and river overflows are all considered wetlands (Wilén and Frayer 1990). Deepwater habitats are permanently flooded lands that lie below the deepwater boundary of wetlands (6.6 ft., 2.0 m), the maximum depth at which emergent plants usually grow (Wilén and Frayer 1990).

Unfortunately, from colonial times until the last two decades, "Wetlands have been regarded as nuisances, wastelands, habitat for pests, and threats to public health" (Wilén and Frayer 1990:182). In the name of progress, they have been "reclaimed" by draining, clearing, and filling. In recent years, however, wetlands have become appreciated for functions as well as for their less tangible values. The varied benefits of wetlands include regulating the flow of water, storing water, ground water recharge, filtering and purifying water, trapping sediments, providing habitat for plants and animals, and creating recreational opportunities.

Approximately 75 percent of the bird species in North America depend upon wetlands for resting, feeding, or nesting (Steinhart 1990). Describing our more gentle, patient cultures, cultures that depended on rivers and wetlands, one observer wrote, "Living by water nurtures curiosity, fascination with the intangible, patience, and trust" (Steinhart 1990).

## Wetland loss and degradation in Illinois

In the early 1800s, approximately 38.2 percent of Illinois was forested, 61.2 percent was a prairie, and less than 0.6 percent was water. Most of the prairie included wet prairies and marshes located mainly in the central and northern areas of the state. Northeast Illinois had an abundance of diverse wetlands. Central Illinois was blessed with wet prairies and marshes. Wet depressions supported many plant species, including prairie cordgrass, bluejoint reedgrass, marsh blazing-star, and rattlesnake master (Vestal 1914; Sampson 1921). Approximately 31 percent of the forest area found in Illinois in 1820 exists today, and a remnant 11,600 acres remain in a relatively undisturbed condition (Iverson et al. 1989; Iverson 1991). Only about 2,300 acres of good quality prairie remain (White 1978).



Stephen P. Havera

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*Approximately 75 percent of the bird species in North America depend upon wetlands for resting, feeding, or nesting.*

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We found a conservative estimate of presettlement wetlands in Illinois of 8,261,600 acres. The most recent inventory of wetlands in Illinois (Suloway and Hubbell 1994) revealed that approximately 917,765 acres of natural wetlands remain, a decline from approximately 23.1 percent of the surface area during presettlement to about 2.6 percent in the 1980s. All existing wetlands, including those modified and created, occupied about 1,254,000 acres or 3.5 percent of



the state (Suloway and Hubbell 1994).

Preliminary results from a recent hydric soil survey indicated even greater presettlement acreage than our earlier estimate of 8.26 million acres. The more recent survey identified about 8.9 million acres of hydric soil in Illinois. Based upon this preliminary analysis, presettlement wetlands covered about 25 percent in Illinois; their loss, therefore, may have been greater than we originally documented.

Although the loss of wetlands is of monumental importance, the declines in productivity and diversity of the remaining wetlands, declines due to biological, chemical, and physical degradation by humans, are also significant. Wetlands are affected by a variety of factors, including alteration of natural hydrological regimes (dams, channelization, reservoirs), urbanization, agriculture, and other non-point pollution, especially sedimentation (Fredrickson 1991). Agricultural pesticides entering wetlands have reduced the quality of waterfowl habitat and proved destructive to aquatic invertebrate populations. Reduced duckling survival resulted (Sheehan et al. 1986; Grue et al. 1988; Grue et al. 1989).

### Illinois River valley: a history

The historical Illinois River was indeed an Eden for migratory waterfowl. It was not the river proper that provided luxurious habitat but the bottomland, or backwater, lakes that flanked the river. These lakes were typically shallow, clear, and filled with aquatic

vegetation. During the 20th century, a series of events induced by mankind have abused the Illinois River floodplain. In 1900, the completion of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal diverted water from Lake Michigan and allowed sewage effluent from Chicago to enter the Illinois River. The diversion of water increased low-water levels at Peoria between 5 and 6 feet (Bellrose et al. 1979). Forbes and Richardson (1919) noted an average 3.6-foot increase during mid-summer at Havana before the peak of diversion in 1927. Initially, waterfowl benefitted from the diversion of water because the surface areas of bottomland lakes, sloughs, and marshes doubled from about 54,000 acres to over 120,000 acres in the 400,000-acre floodplain (Bellrose et al. 1979). However, the flooding of thousands of acres of bottomland forest during the growing season resulted in the loss of pin oaks and pecan hickories that produce mast for Wood Ducks and Mallards (breeders in Illinois) but are sensitive to increased water levels.

As the bottomland lakes were increasing in surface area as a result of diversion, many lakes were eliminated as drainage and levee districts in the valley developed, principally from 1903 to 1920. These districts incorporated 205,000 acres about half of the bottomland in the floodplain (Mulvihill and Cornish 1929). Three drainage and levee districts representing approximately 8,000 acres — Partridge, Chautauqua, and Big Prairie — were subsequently abandoned, and reverted to a semi-natural state (Bellrose et al. 1979).

## Lesser Scaups

Years	Northeast <sup>a</sup>	Illinois River	West-central <sup>b</sup>	Mississippi River			Central and Southern	
				Northern <sup>c</sup>	Central	Southern <sup>d</sup>	Cooling Lakes <sup>e</sup>	Reservoirs <sup>f</sup>
1948–1952		380,279			154,133			
1953–1957		191,457			211,522			
1958–1962		21,119			251,464			
1963–1967		12,868			364,160			
1968–1972		15,945			396,047	48	1,550	19,100
1973–1977	1,490	11,854			222,188	182	146	975
1978–1982	7,669	21,020	1,235	26,353	300,755	6,974	1,906	7,195
1983–1987	2,678	18,800	1,275		152,980	762	565	2,958
1988–1992		13,624			46,176	336	1,053	4,690
1993–1996		4,465			14,650	293	1,519	4,363

<sup>a</sup>1976–1982, 1984–1985.

<sup>b</sup>1981–1984.

<sup>c</sup>1980, 1982.

<sup>d</sup>1972–1984, 1987–1996.

<sup>e</sup>Includes Clinton Lake 1978–1984, 1987–1996; Sangchris Lake 1972–1984, 1987–1996; Newton Lake 1978–1984, 1987–1996; Coffeen Lake 1972–1979, 1987–1994; Baldwin Lake 1972–1984, 1987–1996.

<sup>f</sup>Includes Lake Shelbyville 1976–1984, 1987–1996; Carlyle Lake 1972–1984, 1987–1996; Rend Lake 1972–1984, 1987–1996.

*Five-year averages of peak numbers of Lesser Scaups during fall for the inventory regions of Illinois, 1948–1996.*

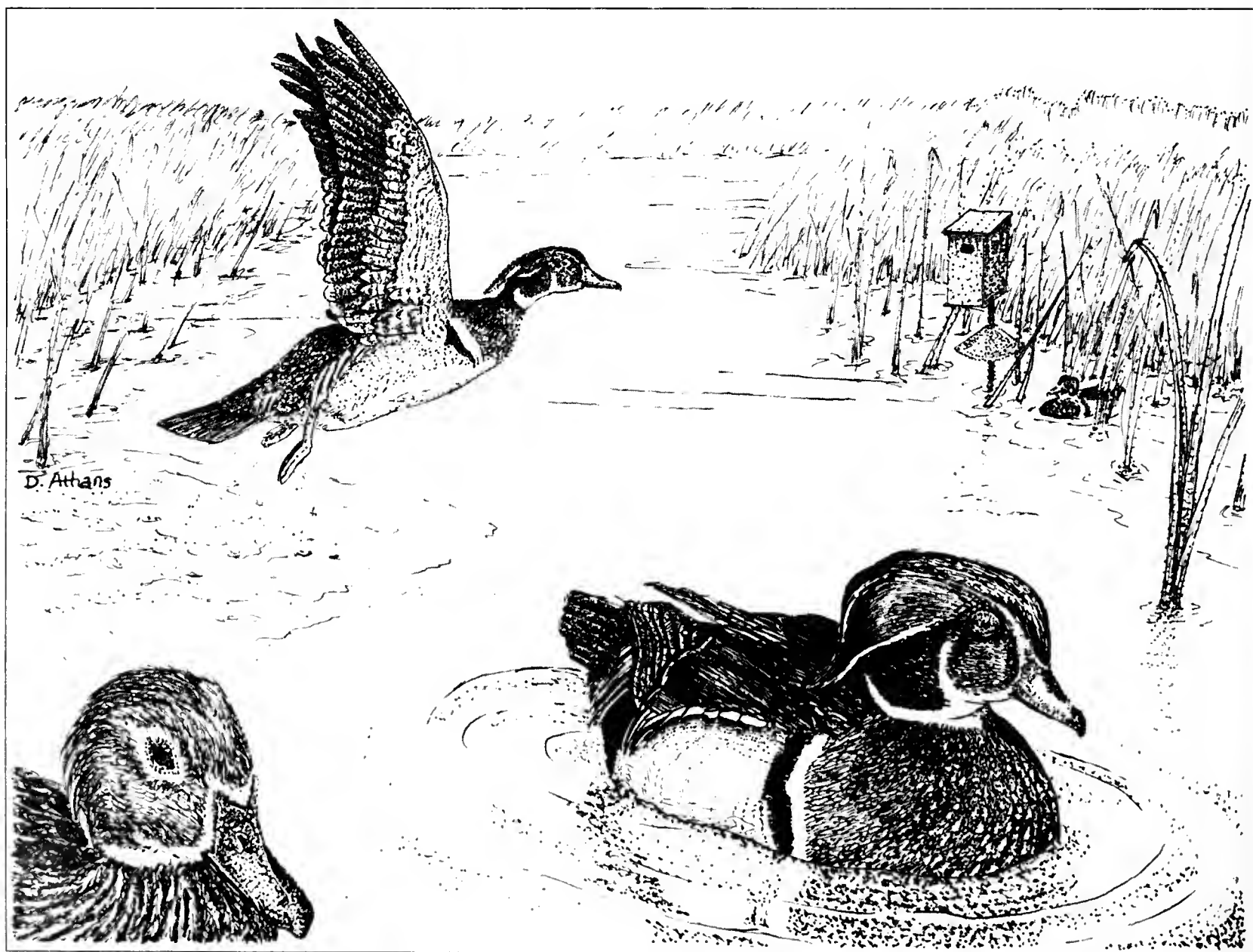
The remainder of the Illinois River floodplain consisted of 156,800 acres of unvegetated areas, including lakes, and sloughs, and 33,000 acres of river surface.

By 1920, beds of pondweeds, American wild celery, and common hornwort in Peoria Lake had disappeared (Richardson 1921); by 1922, the wave of pollution that accompanied the diverted Lake Michigan water essentially removed aquatic life as far south as Chillicothe (Mills et al. 1966). Fortunately, urban and industrial pollution declined with the implementation of treatment plants by the Chicago Sanitary District in 1922. Navigation dams became operational above Starved Rock Lock and Dam in 1933 and below that point in 1938. These dams reduced the rate of flow of the river but maintained the elevated water levels that had resulted from the diversion, even when the amount of diverted water was reduced in 1938 (Bellrose et al. 1979).

Despite these negative impacts, the Illinois River

remains an important migration area for waterfowl. The wetland plants found in the bottomland lakes are affected principally by fluctuating water levels, turbidity, water depth, and competition with other plants (Bellrose et al. 1979). Bellrose (1941) documented the importance of stabilized water levels to submergent aquatic plants, such as pondweeds, in the Illinois Valley. He also noted that American lotus, river bulrush, marsh knotweed, and arrowhead were among the aquatic species most tolerable to variable environmental conditions.

Unfortunately after the 1950s, aquatic plants virtually disappeared. Turbidity and softness of lake beds, the result of sedimentation, and altered water levels were responsible for the decline in vegetation (Bellrose et al. 1979). By the 1970s, the only plant beds usually remaining were those most tolerant of fluctuating water levels and turbidity — American lotus, river bulrush, and marsh knotweed — all poor



*In the early 20th century, sewage effluent from Chicago was diverted from Lake Michigan and allowed to enter the Illinois River. This caused the flooding of thousands of acres of bottomland forest during the growing season, resulting in the loss of pin oaks and pecan hickories that produce mast for Wood Ducks, which breed in Illinois and are sensitive to increased water levels. Illustration by David J. Athans.*

duck foods (Bellrose et al. 1979).

Sedimentation, resulting from erosion of farmlands, bluffs, and stream banks, has affected the productivity of the Illinois River. From 1965 to 1976, Upper Peoria Lake was filling at an average of 1.2 inches per year; its biological life was predicted to be 24 years; and it had lost 72 percent of its volume. (Bellrose et al. 1983; Bhowmik and Adams 1989). Most lakes in the Illinois Valley were less than 2.0 feet deep at normal water levels during the late 1970s (Bellrose et al. 1983), and since then they have filled in even more. Unless sedimentation rates are reduced, what is left of the bottomland lakes will disappear in our lifetime as they become filled by sedimentation and colonized by willows. The river will remain because of the navigation channel, but the lakes are destined for extinction.

The drastic decline of the (migratory) Lesser Scaups and Canvasbacks in the Illinois River region during the 1950s and the subsequent increase then ensuing decline in numbers of these species in the central Mississippi River region are particularly noteworthy. The plant and animal food resources utilized by Lesser Scaups, Canvasbacks, and other species of diving ducks began to disappear from the upper Illinois River valley in the mid 1950s and have not recovered (Table 1). The aquatic plants in the Illinois Valley were affected by sedimentation (Bellrose et al. 1979; Havera and Bellrose 1985), and the benthic

macroinvertebrate community may have been affected by high concentrations of ammonia or other toxic substances (R.E. Sparks, Illinois Natural History Survey, pers. comm.)

The most reasonable means of creating waterfowl habitat in the Illinois Valley is through the restoration of wetlands in selected drainage and levee districts where the wetlands can be protected by levees from sediment, pesticide, and nutrient loads and from the unnaturally fluctuating levels of the river.

### Wetland management

Wetland acquisition and development programs for waterfowl in Illinois generally are directed at providing adequate migration habitat for ducks and wintering habitat for Canada Geese. However, management programs often include measures to increase Wood Duck and Giant Canada Goose production. Managing water levels planting agricultural crops, and creating refuges are techniques commonly used to provide adequate habitat resources for migrating and wintering waterfowl. Between 1994 and 1996, over 220,500 acres of waterfowl habitat were found in Illinois on 85 state and federal areas. Additionally private duck clubs controlled 61,000 acres of land in the Illinois River Valley. Of the wetland habitat on state and federal lands, 8 percent was managed for moist-soil plants, 10 percent for flooded timber and 3 percent for flooded cropland.

## Canvasbacks

Years	Northeast <sup>a</sup>	Illinois River	West-central <sup>b</sup>	Mississippi River			Central and Southern	
				Northern <sup>c</sup>	Central	Southern <sup>d</sup>	Cooling Lakes <sup>e</sup>	Reservoirs <sup>f</sup>
1948-1952		57,378			13,338			
1953-1957		40,344			15,262			
1958-1962		2,096			15,107			
1963-1967		1,389			51,154			
1968-1972		513			122,948	0	60	750
1973-1977	218	1,683			82,125	70	137	366
1978-1982	1,509	3,808	225	4,138	146,002	815	260	1,005
1983-1987	403	3,701	15		83,753	313	62	768
1988-1992		3,566			32,064	224	75	1,205
1993-1996		3,350			23,869	43	188	550

<sup>a</sup>1976-1982, 1984-1985.

<sup>b</sup>1981-1984.

<sup>c</sup>1980, 1982.

<sup>d</sup>1972-1984, 1987-1996.

<sup>e</sup>Includes Clinton Lake 1978-1984, 1987-1996; Sangchris Lake 1972-1984, 1987-1996; Newton Lake 1978-1984, 1987-1996; Coffeen Lake 1972-1979, 1987-1994; Baldwin Lake 1972-1984, 1987-1996.

<sup>f</sup>Includes Lake Shelbyville 1976-1984, 1987-1996; Carlyle Lake 1972-1984, 1987-1996; Rend Lake 1972-1984, 1987-1996.

*Five-year averages of peak numbers of Canvasbacks during fall for the inventory regions of Illinois, 1948-1996.*

As water levels recede during summer, mud flats occur on wetlands associated with river systems. Moist-soil plants that germinate on these exposed soils provide the primary source of natural food for waterfowl migrating through Illinois. Water levels must remain low for at least 70 days if moist-soil plants are to mature and produce seeds and tubers. The amount of moist-soil habitat varies yearly due to annual changes in water levels. Bellrose et al. (1979) determined that as much as 30,800 acres of moist-soil plants potentially could develop in the Illinois River valley, but fluctuating water levels usually limit development to 2,100 to 14,000 acres.

Moist-soil impoundments provide a more dependable source of waterfowl food plants than the plants that grow naturally on exposed mud flats because summer flooding can be prevented in areas within dikes or low levees. The primary objective of moist-soil management is to lower water levels during late spring and summer and expose mud flats on which moist-soil plants germinate and produce seeds, tubers, and foliage. After plants become established, the impoundments are reflooded to make food and cover available to waterfowl and other wetland wildlife. By manipulating the frequency, timing, length, and depth of water levels, the necessary habitat resources for waterfowl can be produced at times that coincide with migration and other critical events in their annual cycle.

Greentree reservoirs are shallow impoundments where living hardwoods are flooded to provide feeding and resting areas for waterfowl, primarily Mallards and Wood Ducks (Fredrickson 1991). Areas of floodplain forest with mast-bearing oaks are appropriate sites for greentree reservoir development. Few greentree reservoirs have been developed (in Illinois) because the existing floodplain forest is composed primarily of an elm-ash-silver maple association. Consequently the potential for acorn production is limited in most bottomland areas. One exception occurs on a portion of the Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois where pin oaks, cherry-bark oaks and swamp white oaks make up most of the bottomland hardwoods. The United States Forest Service began developing a greentree reservoir, Oakwood Bottoms, on this site in the 1960s. By 1976, twenty-two separate compartments within Oakwood Bottoms totaling over 3,100 acres has been completed (Fredrickson and Laubhan 1990). Although this area is managed primarily as habitat for migrating and wintering waterfowl, other important objectives include providing public hunting opportunities, habitat for wildlife other than

waterfowl, and high-quality oaks for commercial use.

The management of waterfowl and their habitats has evolved throughout the past century. The acquisition of strategically located public refuges has complemented those established by private clubs. We have increased our knowledge about the nutritional needs of various species of waterfowl. We may never know as much as we wish about some facets of waterfowl biology or management, and there may be aspects of waterfowl behavior that we many not fully understand in our lifetimes. But there are certain qualities of human behavior and temperament that will encourage us to continue to do whatever we can to enhance and nurture our waterfowl and wetland resources; those attributes are appreciation, concern, and desire. As long as we demonstrate and employ these characteristics, waterfowl populations and their habitats will benefit.

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*Stephen P. Havera grew up near the Illinois River in Peoria, Illinois, when Peoria Lake hosted thousands of Canvasbacks and Lesser Scaups. His neighborhood hosted several ardent duck hunters who further honed his interest in waterfowl and the river. After obtaining a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, Havera worked with Frank C. Bellrose on the Illinois Natural History Survey's waterfowl program. Since then, he has focused on researching waterfowl, the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, and wetlands. Inspired by Bellrose, Havera began working with him on an Illinois waterfowl book in 1980. Bellrose, in 1982, devoted his time to working on other books and Havera continued researching "Waterfowl of Illinois." Havera continues his work as a research biologist and director of the Illinois Natural History Survey's Forbes Biological Station in Havana, Illinois. To obtain a copy of "Waterfowl of Illinois," send a check payable to the University of Illinois to Illinois Natural History Survey, P.O. Box 590, Havana, IL 62644. "Waterfowl of Illinois" is \$50.95 including shipping, and "Waterfowl of Illinois: Abbreviated Field Guide" is \$14.95 including shipping.*

# Seventh Report of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee

by Douglas F. Stotz

Evaluations by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee ("IORC," or "the Committee") are reported here for a total of 53 records, including 46 accepted records of 33 species, and 8 unaccepted records of 8 species. A total of 57 observers contributed descriptions or photographs documenting the records included in this report. Included herein are reviewed species evaluations from 1999, 2000, and 2001. Some records are still in dispute and the Committee is, as of this publication, still reviewing those records. If a photograph was published in *North American Birds*, *Birding*, or *Meadowlark*, an attempt has been made to reference those publications for that bird record evidence. Any errors of omission are the fault of the author.

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## Format

The format of this report follows the conventions used in the first through sixth reports of the Committee (Goetz and Robinson 1988; Goetz 1989; Goetz 1990; Johnson, Deaton and Clyne 1998; Johnson and Stotz 1999; Stotz and Johnson 2000). The records below are divided into two major groups: Accepted and Unaccepted. Each of these groups is then further divided into Review List Records and Other Records. The sequence of species conforms to that of the American Ornithologists' Union seventh checklist (1998) and its supplements.

An accepted record is entered with the locality including the standard abbreviation for the county (see below), the date, and (in parentheses) the IORC record number (the first four characters of which give the year of the first observation), and the initials of the primary observer(s) who contributed specimens, descriptions, and/or photographs. Similar information is provided for unaccepted records, except the observers remain anonymous, and a brief explanation of why the record was not accepted is given. Photographic evidence is noted following a contributor's name by an asterisk (\*); when the photographic evidence is known to be a videotape, a "v" is appended (\*v); \*p,v indicates

both photographic and video evidence presented by same contributor. Many contributing photographers also submitted written descriptions — a practice the Committee encourages. If the observer(s) who first discovered the bird submitted documentation, their initials are set off from the initials of other contributors by a semicolon. Initial observers who did not submit documentations are not always listed. For specimen records, a sharp (#) precedes an abbreviation for the institution holding the specimen, along with that institution's catalogue number of the specimen.

We have made an attempt to reference published photographs and brief accounts (such as seasonal highlights published in *Meadowlark*) by journal number and page. Articles are cited by author and date and are indexed in the list of references. Seasonal highlights in the *Meadowlark* dealing with first state records are treated as articles.

Several records that were seen by several to many observers were documented by only one or two of these observers. The committee would like to encourage all observers to document all the review list species they see. Documentation by multiple observers can provide additional evidence and support for the identity of rari-

ties. Often records that have not been accepted suffer from incomplete information, a problem which additional documentation by other observers could help overcome.

Information on the age and sex of the birds reported may be an opinion of the person(s) submitting the evidence and is not necessarily an accepted position of the Committee. All other remarks are the author's, although most of the information comes from the Committee files, which are now stored in Springfield, Illinois, as part of the Avian Ecology Program, Natural Heritage Section, Department of Natural Resources.

In several cases discrepancies exist between the details presented here vs. other published sources, especially regarding dates of occurrence. The data in this report provide the Committee's best assessment of all available information. We have not generally commented on records that are published elsewhere with more limited data than contained here, but we have made explicit note of apparent errors in published data. The Committee accepts responsibility for any inaccuracies or misrepresentations of information herein. Errors that come to our attention will be published as corrigenda in a future IORC report.

Abbreviations: References to seasonal reports in the journals *Illinois Birds and Birding*; *Meadowlark, A Journal of Illinois Birds*; *American Birds*; *Field Notes*; and *North American Birds* are abbreviated by IBB, MJIB, AB, FN, and NAB, respectively, followed by volume and page numbers; note that the first two issues of MJIB (Volume 1, Numbers 1 and 2) were paginated separately, not sequentially within that volume, and the journal number is included for those two issues. Months are abbreviated by their first three letters.

County abbreviations largely follow those adopted in Johnson, Deaton and Clyne (1998). The 102 Illinois counties and their abbreviations are as follows:

Adams = ADA	Hardin = HAR	Morgan = MOR
Alexander = ALE	Henderson = HND	Moultrie = MOU
Bond = BON	Henry = HNR	Ogle = OGL
Boone = BOO	Iroquois = IRO	Peoria = PEO
Brown = BRO	Jackson = JAC	Perry = PER
Bureau = BUR	Jasper = JAS	Piatt = PIA
Calhoun = CAL	Jefferson = JEF	Pike = PIK
Carroll = CAR	Jersey = JER	Pope = POP
Cass = CAS	Jo Davies = JOD	Pulaski = PUL
Champaign = CHA	Johnson = JOH	Putnam = PUT
Christian = CHR	Kane = KNE	Randolph = RAN
Clark = CLR	Kankakee = KNK	Richland = RIC
Clay = CLY	Kendall = KEN	Rock Island = ROC
Clinton = CLI	Knox = KNO	St. Clair = SCL
Coles = COL	Lake = LAK	Saline = SAL
Cook = COO	La Salle = LAS	Sangamon = SAN
Crawford = CRA	Lawrence = LAW	Schuyler = SCH
Cumberland = CUM	Lee = LEE	Scott = SCO
De Kalb = DEK	Livingston = LIV	Shelby = SHE
De Witt = DEW	Logan = LOG	Stark = STA
Douglas = DOU	McDonough = McD	Stephenson = STE
Du Page = DUP	McHenry = McH	Tazewell = TAZ
Edgar = EDG	McLean = McL	Union = UNI
Edwards = EDW	Macon = MCN	Vermilion = VER
Effingham = EFF	Macoupin = MCP	Wabash = WAB
Fayette = FAY	Madison = MAD	Warren = WAR
Ford = FOR	Marion = MRN	Washington = WAS
Franklin = FRA	Marshall = MRS	Wayne = WAY
Fulton = FUL	Mason = MSN	White = WHT
Gallatin = GAL	Massac = MSS	Whiteside = WHS
Greene = GRE	Menard = MEN	Will = WLL
Grundy = GRU	Mercer = MER	Williamson = WLM
Hamilton = HAM	Monroe = MNR	Winnebago = WIN
Hancock = HAN	Montgomery = MNT	Woodford = WOO

Other abbreviations used throughout are:

AOU = American Ornithologists' Union	GLPSP = Goose Lake Prairie State Park (GRU)
CA = Conservation Area	IBSP = Illinois Beach State Park (LAK)
CAS = Chicago Academy of Sciences	ISM = Illinois State Museum (Springfield)
CBC = Christmas Bird Count	NC = Nature Center
Co. = County	NF = National Forest
Cos. = Counties	NWR = National Wildlife Refuge
FMNH = Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago)	SBC = Spring Bird Count
FP = Forest Preserve	SP = State Park
GLNTC = Great Lakes Naval Training Center (LAK)	

"Northern," "central," and "southern Illinois" refer to specific subsections of the state as first defined by Gault 1922; see also Bohlen 1978. The terms "region" and "regional" apply to the Middlewestern Prairie Region as used in FN and NAB and include Illinois as well as Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, and most of Ohio and Kentucky.

## Documentors

Steve Bailey, Frank Bennett, Richard Biss, H. David Bohlen (HDB), Denis Bohm, Barbara Brown, Scott Carpenter, Robert Chapel, Josh Engel, Richard Erickson, Carolyn Fields, Bob Fisher, Steven Freed, Urs Geiser, Ralph Herbst, Scott Hickman, Margaret Hollowell, Frank Holmes, Barbara Johnson, David B. Johnson, Paul Johnson, Dan Kassebaum, Jim Landing, Kent Lannert, Sandie Loechle, Charlene Malone, Jim Malone, Keith McMillan, Bill Mellen, Joe B. Milosevich, Rhonda Monroe, Ed Mooney, William Moskoff, Dennis Oehmke, April Paulman, James Phillips, Tim Rathjen, Mary Regan (MRg), Michael Retter (MRt), Justin Rink, Wes Serafin, Jonathan Simms (JSi), Jim Solum (JSo), Pam Sprout (PSP), David Stanfield, Leonard Stanley, Al Stokie, Douglas F. Stotz (DFS), Paul Sweet (PSw), Jeff Walk, Eric Walters, Peter Weber, Chuck Westcott, Daniel Williams, Geoffrey Williamson, Richard Young, Jody Zamirowski (JZa), Jim Ziebol (JZi).

## Membership

Current members of the IORC are Steven D. Bailey, Robert T. Chapel, Paul R. Clyne, Myrna Deaton, David B. Johnson (Vice-Secretary), Dan Kassebaum, and Douglas F. Stotz (Secretary). Alternates on the Committee are Richard Biss, Robert E. Fisher, Joe B. Milosevich, and David Willard.

## Review List

As in past reports, the Review List is provided to indicate those birds the observer might encounter that the Committee is most interested in reviewing. These are species that, in general, average four or fewer records per year in the state, or that are extremely rare in all but a few counties in the state. The current review list was approved at the 8 August 1999 Committee meet-

ing. The IORC requests and welcomes evidence concerning all records for the review species listed on the review list on the IOS/IORC website: <http://www.chias.org/ios/iorc.html>. In addition, any species not listed in the checklist of Illinois state birds (IORC 1999) should be documented. Documentation of regular species may be appropriate when they occur out

of season, i.e., exceptionally early arrival dates or late departure dates for migratory species. All first state nesting records should also be documented. Exceptionally high counts of species may also merit documentation.

### Acknowledgements

This report is made possible by the thoughtful, careful and time-

ly review by all Committee members both past and current, and by the support of Illinois birders and institutions that contributed evidence of Illinois birds by specimens, documentations, photographs, and/or videotapes. Special thanks must go to David Willard (Field Museum) and George Ware (Southern Illinois University) for providing access to museum specimens.

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## ACCEPTED RECORDS — Review List Records Accepted (38 records of 26 species)

**Pacific Loon** (*Gavia pacifica*) One at Clinton Lake DEW on 14 Nov (2000.050; RC).

**Tricolored Heron** (*Egretta tricolor*) One at Stump Lake, Pere Marquette SP JER on 4 to 7 Aug (2000.038; SB; DK\*, RC).

**Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*) One at Joppa MSS on 20 Sep (2000.043; FB).

**Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*) One adult at Herrick Lake FP DUP on 21 Jun (2000.037; UG). One adult at Horseshoe Lake on 3 to 8 Aug (2000.058; DK\*). One adult at Pere Marquette SP JER on 4 to 7 Aug (2000.059; DK\*). IORC did not consider the photos of the Pere Marquette ibis to be identifiable to species, but written documentation by the observer did establish this bird as a Glossy Ibis.

**White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chihi*) One adult in WIN on 29 Apr (2000.023; DW). One adult at Blackwell FP DUP on 6 May (2000.028; JP, JZa). One adult at Horseshoe Lake MAD on 17 to 26 Aug (2000.060; DK\*).

**Eurasian Wigeon** (*Anas penelope*) One adult male at Chain O' Lakes SP, LAK on 15 to 19 Mar (2000.021; JSo; DJ, SC, DB, JR\* [video captures]). Solum (2000) discusses this record. See sketch by David B. Johnson.

**Harlequin Duck** (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) One female-plumaged bird at South Elgin KNE on 1 Jan (2001.001; TR\*).

**Black Vulture** (*Coragyps atratus*) One at Hopkins Park KNK on 1 Jul (2000.040; DFS).

**Mississippi Kite** (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) One adult at Springbrook Prairie FP DUP on 6 May (2000.028; RY)

**Black Rail** (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) One bird, presumably a male, was at Springbrook Prairie FP DUP on 6 May to 22 June (2000.054; BF written documentation plus recording). Fisher (2000) discusses the record and other recent records of this rarely detected species.

**Purple Gallinule** (*Porphyrola martinica*) One adult at

Mermet Lake MSS on 6 May (2000.030; FB).

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** (*Calidris acuminata*) One juvenile at Lake Chautauqua NWR MSN on 24 to 30 Sep (2000.047; RC). This bird was seen by numerous observers, but was documented by only one observer.

**Ruff** (*Philomachus pugnax*) One subadult male at Fairmont City STC and in northern MON on 3 to 6 Apr (2000.022; CM\*, DK\*, KM). The Ruff was seen first at Fairmont City and then moved to nearby Monroe County, it appears. Photos were obtained at both sites and appear identical. Additionally, one observer saw the bird at both sites and believes they were the same bird.

**Pomarine Jaeger** (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) One immature at Rend Lake FRA on 29 Jan to 5 Feb (2000.013; FB, DK).

**Long-tailed Jaeger** (*Stercorarius longicaudatus*) One juvenile at Carlyle Lake CLI on 19 Sep to 2 Oct (1999.044; RM\*, CW\*, CF\*, RH\*, KL, JZi, RC, MRt\*, WS, JM, FB). One juvenile at Lake Chautauqua MSN on 10 to 24 Sep (2000.064; DO\*, DJ\*). These are the first two accepted records for Illinois. An immature specimen collected at Nashville was housed at SIU on 21 Oct 1893, and identified as Long-tailed Jaeger. This specimen has been reviewed by IORC, but the committee remains split on its identity. The first record at Carlyle Lake was a controversial bird and remains so. There is some question whether two jaegers may have been present (one Long-tailed and one Parasitic) or whether only a single bird was present. Under this second scenario, this single jaeger, depending on the viewing conditions, was variously identified as a Long-tailed or a Parasitic. At the January 2001 meeting of IORC the committee unanimously agreed that Rhonda Monroe's photos taken on 25 September 1999 during an IOS field trip were of a Long-tailed Jaeger. Outside experts who have viewed these photos on the Internet all concluded it represented a Long-tailed Jaeger, or "probably" a Long-tailed Jaeger. We further decided there was no conclusive evidence



that more than one jaeger was present at Carlyle Lake in September and early October 1999. The committee recognizes this controversy remains, and welcomes additional evidence on the issue.

**California Gull** (*Larus californicus*) One at the Horseshoe Lake borrow pit MAD on 18 December (1999.068; FH) One 1st year bird at Carlyle Lake CLI on 9 to 23 Jan (2000.004; DK\*, FB). One adult at Calumet Park, Chicago COO on 22 to 23 Jan (2000.016; JL\*). A second bird present at the same site was not documented. One adult at Settler's Hill Landfill, Batavia KNE on 28 Oct (2000.048; JSi).

**Arctic Tern** (*Sterna paradisaea*) One adult at GLNTC LAK on 3 June (2000.035; AS, DW). This record has details provided by Williams (2000) and is the sixth record for the state accepted by IORC. All have occurred in May or June. The documentation stands out in quality among the written documentation the committee received.

**Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) Six individuals at Carlyle CLI on 10 Sep (2000.046; RC; DK\* photo of single individual from a different date at this site). This is a known established population; up to thirteen individuals have been seen here. Dan Kassebaum reports they have been present since 1996. One individual at Newton JAS on 19 Dec (2000.067; JW). This is a population that has been present for an extended period. One individual at Metropolis MSS on 30 Dec (2000.076; DK).

**White-winged Dove** (*Zenaida asiatica*) One at Ivesdale CHA on 7 May (2000.025; AP\*). This is the fourth record for Illinois of this expanding species.

**Barn Owl** (*Tyto alba*) One a Moline ROC on 2 Dec (1999.070; SF) One at Lincoln Park, Chicago COO on 1 Oct (2000.053; GW\*). See photo in this report.

**Red-cockaded Woodpecker** (*Picoides borealis*) One adult female at IBSP LAK on 19 Aug to 10 Dec (2000.052; AS, SB, RE, PSw, DJ\*, DO\*, JBM\*). This remarkable record was the first for Illinois, and perhaps the most unexpected addition to the Illinois list ever. It is this century's second extralimital record north of the states in which it is known to breed for this endangered resident of the southeastern pine forests. Full details and photos can be found in an article on page 42 in this issue of Meadowlark, plus color photos are published in Birding 33:36 and NAB 55:118.

**Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) One adult male at Naperville WIL on 13 Dec (2000.074; SL\*) to 9 Jan 2001. This bird was seen by many observers.

**Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrula*) One at Rochester SAN on 22 Jan to 17 Feb (2000.002; HDB; DO\*). Many other observers saw this bird during its stay. A photo and discussion of the record can be found



Barn Owl. 1 October 2000. Lincoln Park, Chicago, Cook County. Photo by Alan Thatcher. IORC # 2000.053

in Bailey (2000a).

**Scott's Oriole** (*Icterus parisorum*) One immature male at Toulon STA on 15 Jan to 3 Feb (2000.012: PSp\*p,v) A remarkable first Illinois record. This bird came daily to a suet feeder and details of the record are provided by Sprout (2000) and a color photo is published in NAB 54: 228. This bird of the southwestern US and northwestern Mexico has an established pattern of vagrancy that includes records north and east to Washington, Minnesota, Wisconsin and western Ontario (AOU 1998). The Wisconsin record also was a feeder bird present from November 1995 to January 1996 (Frank 1996), while the Ontario record was also found in November, in 1975 (Speirs 1985). This suggests that, despite the anomaly of a winter oriole in Illinois, late fall or winter may be the time to expect other vagrant records of this species.

**Painted Bunting** (*Passerina ciris*) One immature male at Wadsworth LAK on 21 to 23 Apr (2000.024; BM\*; SC\*v, EW\*, RB\*,DJ). A photo is published along with further details of this record in Mellen (2000) and a color photo is published in NAB 54:335. A pair raised two young in a nest in East St. Louis STC on 29 Jul to 7 Aug (2000.041; DK\*, FB\*v). Details of this nesting record along with photos of the adult male, a nestling and the nest are provided by Kassebaum (2001). These are the fourth and fifth records of this species. The nesting record is a substantial extension of the known breeding range of this species. The nearest known regular breed-

ing population is in southwestern Missouri (Robbins and Easterla 1992).

**Hoary Redpoll** (*Carduelis hornemanni*) One at Skokie

COO on 7 Feb to 3 Mar (2000.017; EM, JE\*, EW\*, SC\*v, DFS, WM, RC) Photos and a discussion of this record are provided by Walters (2000).

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### OTHER ACCEPTED RECORDS — (8 records of 7 species)

**Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularia*) One at Lake Springfield SAN on 25 Jan to 15 Feb (2000.003; HDB). This is one of only two winter records for Illinois.

**Little Gull** (*Larus minutus*) One at Mermet Lake MSS on 23 March (2000.020; FB\*v).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** (*Tyrannus forficatus*) One at Carlyle Lake CLI on 19 Aug to 9 Oct (2000.057; DK\*, RC). This species has recently been removed from the review list.

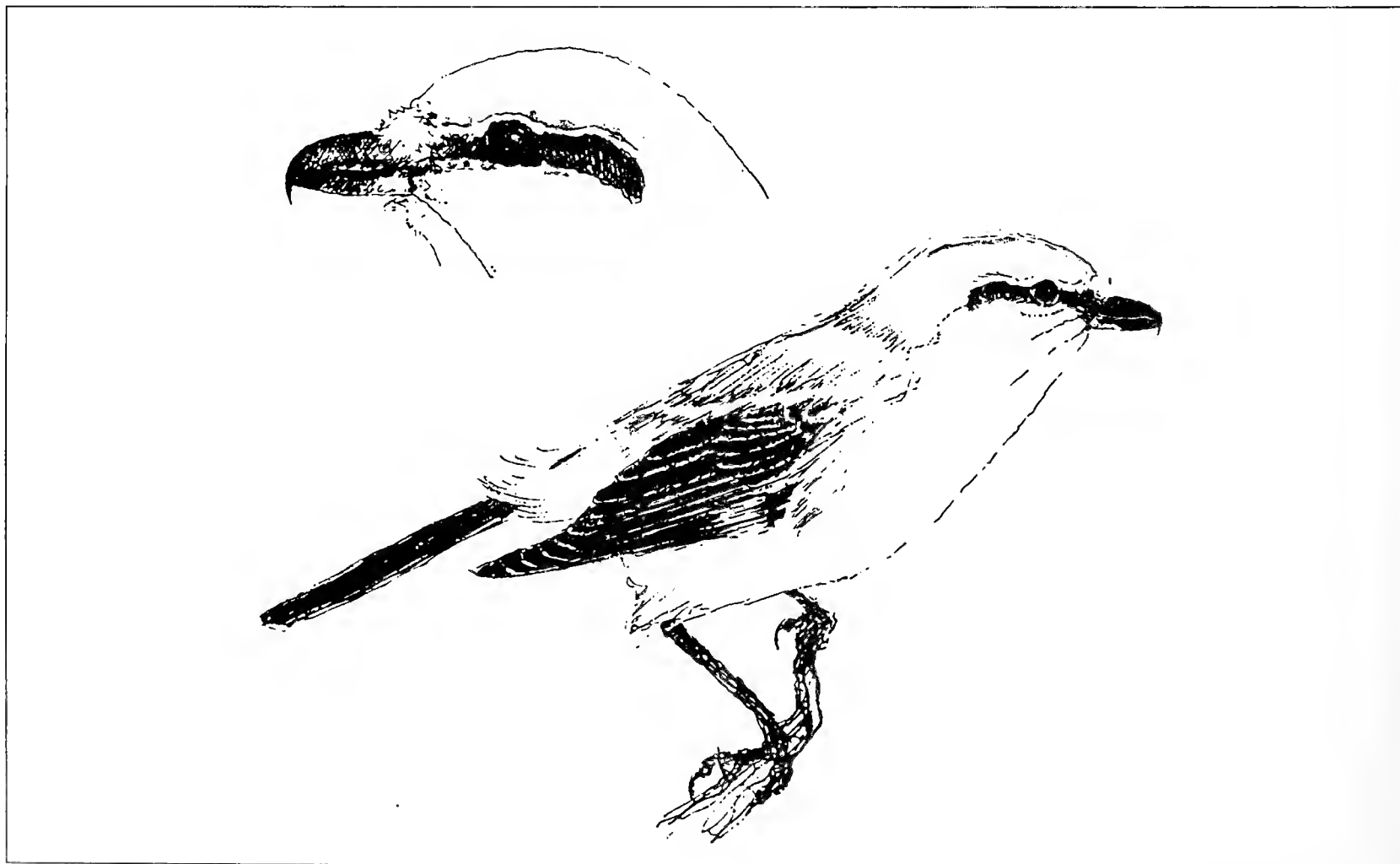
**Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*) One at borrow pit near Horseshoe Lake MAD on 26 Nov (1999.069; FH\*; JZi, BJ, PJ) to 6 Feb 2000. This was a well-documented record. One of the documenters believed this bird represented a juvenile Loggerhead Shrike rather than a Northern Shrike. However, Loggerhead Shrikes lose their juvenile characters before November. The documentation in February especially indicated that this was not a juvenile Loggerhead. A photo of this bird was pub-

lished in the review by Bailey (2000b) of the Northern Shrike invasion of the winter of 1999-2000. This is the southernmost record for Northern Shrike in Illinois. See sketch by Jim Ziebol.

**American Pipit** (*Anthus rubescens*) One at GLNTC LAK on 23 Jan (2000.001; SH, AS, RE). One at Lake Sangchris SAN on 22-23 Jan (2000.006; PW). Although American Pipits are irregularly found in Illinois in December (Bohlen 1989), these mid-winter records are unprecedented.

**Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*) One at Deer Grove East FP COO on 4 June (1999.066; CF). This is one of the few June records for Illinois.

**Dickcissel** (*Spiza americana*) One at Belleville STC on 11 Mar (2000.015; MRg). Typically, this species arrives in Illinois in late April. There is one other March record (Bohlen 1986) and very few winter records, mostly in December and January.



Sketch of Northern Shrike by Jim Ziebol. Documented in St. Charles County, south of its typical wintering range. IORC # 1999.069. Note the strongly hooked bill, diagnostic of this species.

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## UNACCEPTED RECORDS — Review List Records Unaccepted (6 records of 6 species)

**Swallow-tailed Kite** (*Elanoides forficatus*) One in Oakwood Twp. VER on 4 Aug (2000.039). There was almost no description provided of the bird seen. The observer indicated it looked like a frigatebird and nothing in the description ruled out an immature frigatebird.

**Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) One immature along the Illinois River JER on 11 Nov (2000.051). A limited description did not eliminate Pomarine Jaeger or even an immature Herring Gull. The described size of the bird observed as larger than a Ring-billed Gull argues against this species.

**Royal Tern** (*Sterna maxima*) One at 64th St. Beach, Chicago COO on 9 June (1999.065). Committee members felt the description was too brief and did not eliminate Caspian Tern.

**Eurasian Collared-Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*) Three individuals at Kansas EDG on 6 May (2000.033). The flock contained one all-white bird. Since albinos are commonly found in Ringed Turtle-Dove and given brief descriptions of the other birds, the majority of the Committee considered this record questionable. The Committee has several other records of this species that remain in review. It is clear that this species is invading Illinois and is resident in parts of downstate. However, very few records have been well-documented for the state. Given the fact that Ringed Turtle-Doves are held in captivity throughout the U.S., and that a large feral, extremely variable population of *Streptopelia* exists in

Will County, the committee encourages observers to carefully document all *Streptopelia* populations. It will help us understand the spread of this species through the state, and help us understand the interaction with the feral *Streptopelia* populations.

**Carrion Crow** (*Corvus corone*) One at Montrose COO on 13 to 27 Feb (2000.018; photo) The photo of this bird examined by the committee was unequivocally a "Hooded" Crow, the eastern European subspecies of the Carrion Crow. There is a record from the Salton Sea, California, considered to be an escape (AOU 1998). Otherwise it is unrecorded from North America, although there are specimen records from Greenland. Given the unlikelihood of the record, and the extremely worn plumage described by many observers in posts on IBET, the Committee believed the probability this bird represented an escape from captivity was very high, and voted not to accept this record.

**Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrula*) One at Highland Park LAK on 30 Dec (2000.066). A lengthy view was obtained by the single observer at close range. However, the description was incomplete. It mentioned white in the wing, but the pale inner edge of tertials on the Cedar Waxwing may appear as a white line. Despite the good view, the description does not mention the chestnut undertail coverts of this species. In the absence of any diagnostic plumage detail in the description, the committee voted not to accept this record.

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## OTHER UNACCEPTED RECORDS — (2 records of 2 species)

**Bewick's Wren** (*Thryothorus bewickii*) One in sw FRA on 26 Sep (2000.049). The photograph that was identified as this species appears to be a House Wren with an unusually prominent eyeline.

**Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Spizella pallida*) One at Bloomington MCL on 13 to 18 December (2000.068).

The committee split, as did observers who saw the bird, on whether this bird was a Clay-colored or Chipping sparrow. It was clearly one or the other, both of which would be exceptional records at this time of year, but the details were insufficient to establish it as either species with certainty.

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## CORRIGENDA

**Purple Gallinule:** The specimen record in the sixth report (Stotz and Johnson 2000) from Flanagan

(1999.036) should be listed as Livingston County, not McLean County.

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# Seasonal Highlights

## A Juvenile Sharp-tailed Sandpiper at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge

On Saturday, 23 September 2000, Kevin Richmond discovered a juvenile Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*) at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, Mason County. The next day, Justin Rink, Bob Chapel, and I saw the bird.

It was noticeably smaller than the Pectoral Sandpipers (*C. melanotos*) nearby, and its legs appeared shorter. The beak was shorter and straighter than the beaks of the Pectorals nearby.

The Sharp-tail looked surprisingly small, and although the Sharp-tail is closely related to Pectorals, the nearby Buff-breasted Sandpiper is what made us look twice to confirm the species.

Like the Buff-breasted, the Sharp-tailed Sandpiper had a large black eye and was very warm in plumage with a mostly clear breast. More specifically, the breast was streaked a little on the upper portion and washed with very bright, clear, pumpkin orange, not buff.

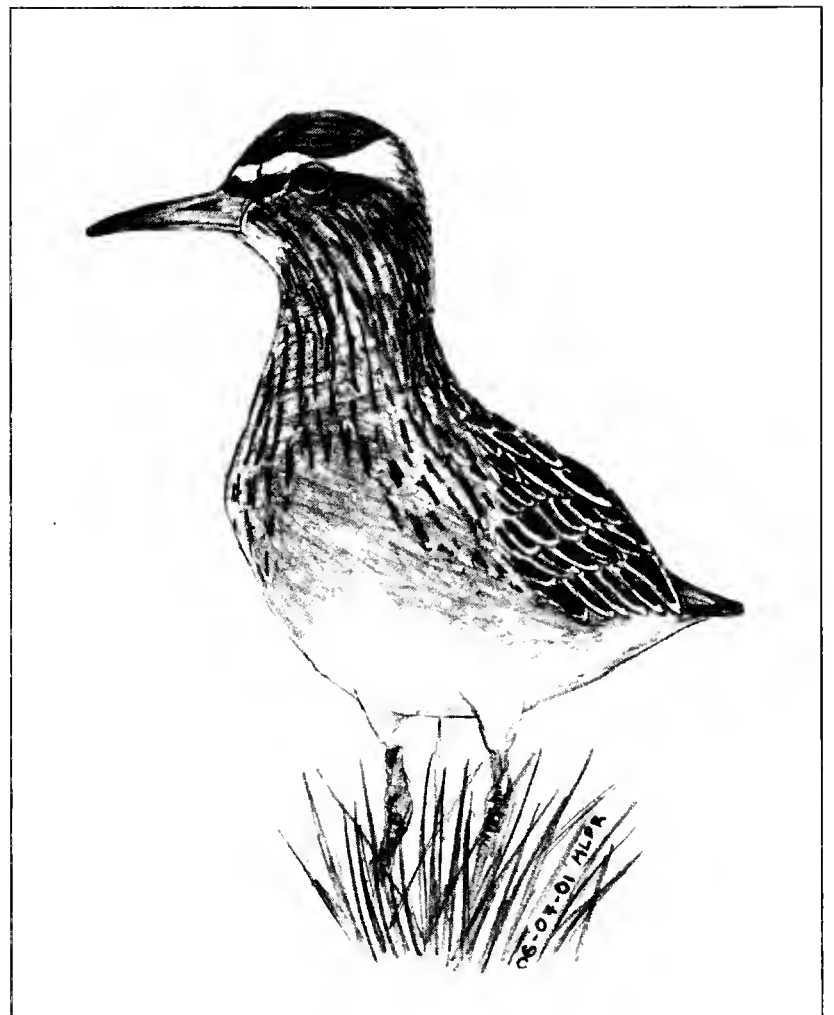
The Sharp-tailed Sandpiper had the typical "fore-tilted" cap, caused by the flaring of the white supercilium behind the eye.

Sharp-tailed Sandpipers breed in Siberia. Since Pectoral Sandpipers breed there as well, it's possible at least some of the Sharp-tailed Sandpipers that occur in North America do so because they get caught up in flocks of migrating Pectorals.

The Sharp-tailed Sandpiper is a very rare vagrant in Illinois. It was first recorded and photographed in the state at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, 1974 September 28 and 29 (Bohlen and Sandburg 1975). Another bird was reported in Chicago 6 October 1985 (IB&B2:50). Both were immature, distinguished by the buffy breast and chestnut cap (Bohlen 1989).

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Juvenile Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*). Drawing by Michael L.P. Retter.

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# BIRD FINDING GUIDE

## Little Known, Overlooked or Forgotten Birding Spots

Breeding Season in Central Illinois: Fox Ridge State Park, Lincoln Trail State Park, Mill Creek County Park and Fairmont Quarry.

by Robert Chapel

On one fine June day in 1999, I decided to go birding at Fox Ridge State Park in Coles County. I had stopped there several times during the middle of the day when returning from Breeding Bird Surveys, and was struck by its beauty, especially for east-central Illinois. Except for the fact the park had breeding Cerulean Warblers and an occasional Worm-eating Warbler, I did not know much about the bird life there and wanted to find out. That June day at the break of dawn I discovered a diverse and interesting bird life. I reported as such to the Illinois bird chat group, IBET, which elicited the following response from Sheryl DeVore, who had just completed the manuscript for *Birding Illinois*: "Uh-oh. Looks like I should have included that in my book."

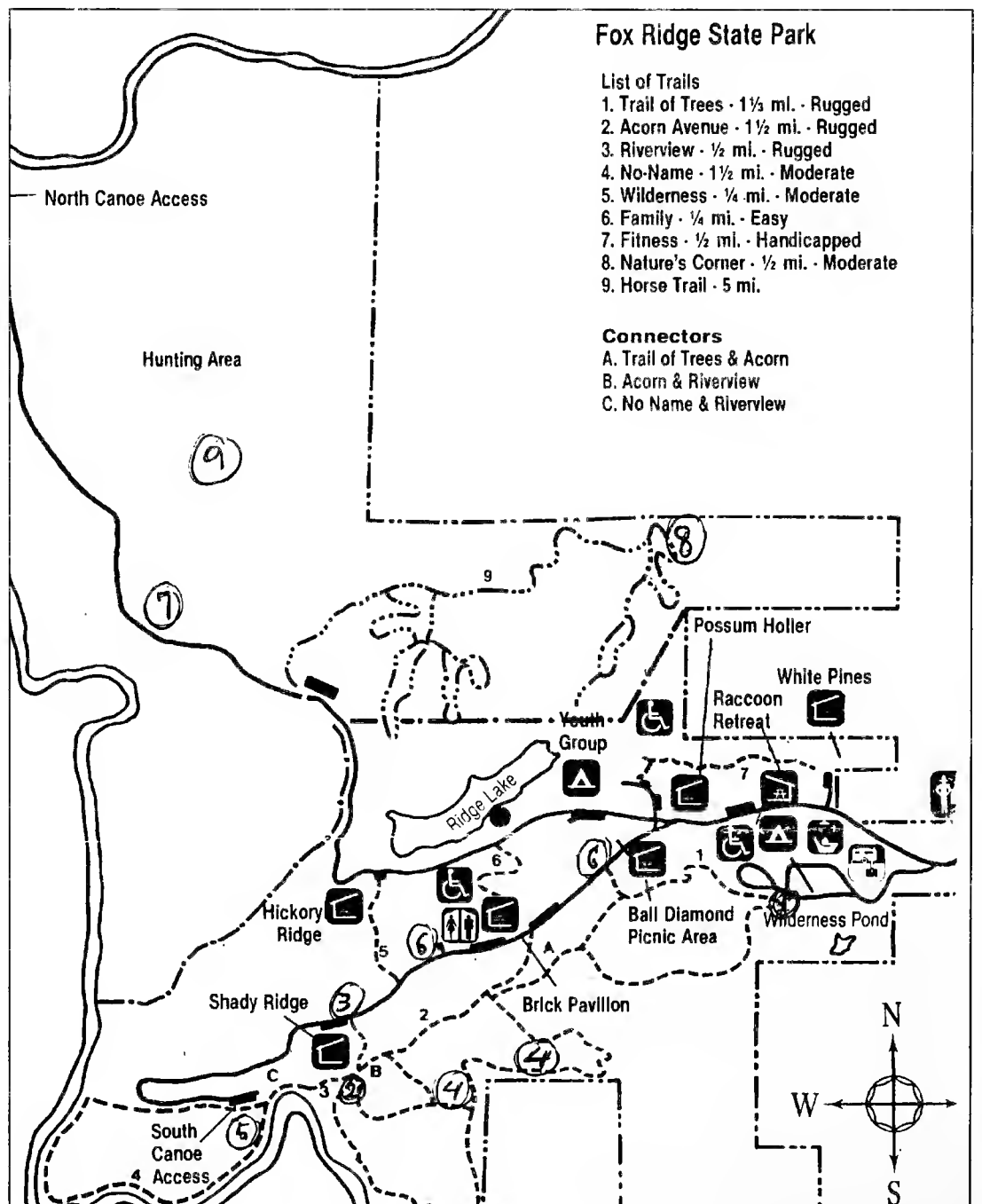
It is apparent, from IBET or bird location guides, that birding in Illinois mostly occurs at relatively few tried-and-true locations. Yet, Illinois is a vast state with numerous small-to-medium state parks, county parks, and natural areas about which we rarely, if ever hear reports. The following descriptions of some of the lesser-known, yet excellent locations in east-central Illinois are not meant to be complete site guides but rather the beginning of a dialogue. In some cases I am hoping birders who are more familiar with some of these areas will be encouraged to write complete site guides, including

birds found during all seasons. In other cases, perhaps people will be encouraged to visit areas and gain further knowledge of some of these areas. Further, I am hoping people are encouraged to explore beyond their own home turf or visit some unfamiliar locations, and thus gain

a better knowledge of birding in all parts of Illinois. Who knows? Maybe there's another Lowden-Miller State Forest, or Arcola Marsh out there waiting to be discovered as a rich birding resource.

### I. FOX RIDGE STATE PARK.

"Pizza!" "Pizza!"



The call of the Acadian Flycatcher is one of the most familiar sounds at Fox Ridge State Park during breeding season in central Illinois. After crossing the corn and soybean desert that is most of central Illinois, suddenly finding oneself in the midst of steep wooded ravines creates a pleasant sense of displacement. But this park, six miles south of Charleston along Illinois 130, also contains grasslands, old fields, and various stages of second growth woods in the hunting areas. This diverse habitat makes for a diverse population of landbirds. Waterbirds are in short supply, as the only lake in the park, Ridge Lake, is too small to support them.

The main part of the park does not open for automobile traffic until 7:30 a.m., so any early morning birding will have to be done in the hunting areas, by entering off of either County Roads 300N or 400N, or by parking in the campgrounds and entering the ravine trail system on the south side of the park. I would suggest beginning very early in the morning in the ravine trail system. Get a map at the entrance to the park, and either park in the campground parking lots for camp visitors, or, if preferred, you may wish to camp overnight.

The trailheads begin on the west end of the campgrounds and immediately lead into the ravine system (1). Follow the trail along the base of the main ravine. This ravine is over 100 feet deep by the time you reach the 147 steps to the "Eagle's Roost" (2). Along the way you will find numerous Acadian Flycatchers, perhaps the most common bird along the ravine trail systems. But listen and look for Yellow-throated Vireos, Red-eyed Vireos, Warbling Vireos, Kentucky Warblers, Northern Parulas, Louisiana Waterthrushes, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Scarlet Tan-

agers, and Wood Thrushes. Barred Owls are also common here. At the "Eagle's Roost and the nearby Shady Ridge Picnic Shelter (3), look for Cerulean Warblers. Along side ravines (4), listen and look for the occasional Worm-eating Warbler. Past the Eagle's Roost, the No-name and Riverview trails run along the Embarras River. Here you will find Yellow-throated Warblers and an occasional Prothonotary Warblers. In the more open areas at the base of the park road, you may find American Redstarts.

Once the park road opens, you can access the picnic and recreation areas of the park. Here is the best opportunity for finding Summer Tanager. Both orioles will be found here also. The southern fork (5) leads to Shady Rest where, if you have waited until later to go to the ravine system, is a good place to begin hiking. I have found Kentucky Warblers, Summer and Scarlet Tanagers, and both orioles, as well as Cerulean Warblers here. The north fork of the road system leads to the Hunting Area. Stop at Ridge Lake, where Belted Kingfishers and phoebes can be found. Proceed to the hunting area (6) where White-eyed Vireos, Yellow-breasted Chats, and Dickcissels are common. The woods to the east of the road can be entered at several areas, although the only marked trail system is the Horse Trail (7), an area I have only briefly explored, entering from the outside, in 1999.

In the wooded areas, such species as Kentucky Warbler, Northern Parula, and Acadian Flycatcher can be found, although they are not as common here as in the ravine system. Cerulean Warblers have also been found here, especially on the east side of the hunting area (8), but not consistently. However, these woods (9)

are the only area where I have been able to find Ovenbirds. Edge species, such as Eastern Towhees, White-eyed Vireos, and chats are also found in these woods, which are somewhat fragmented compared with the ravines. This area does not have clearly marked hiking trails and I have found my way around either by hiking on old abandoned lanes, or stream beds. You may want to bring a compass.

Local birders may wish to elaborate on this description of Fox Ridge State Park, particularly with regard to wintering or migrating birds, or to give a more complete site guide to this beautiful State Park that holds so much birding promise. In addition, comments or site guides to nearby areas would be useful. For instance, Lake Charleston, just five miles north of the Park is an excellent area to see migratory waterfowl. And Lincoln Log Cabin State Historical Site, while not a "natural area" does provide excellent habitat for a variety of birds such as Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Summer Tanagers, and Orchard Orioles. Bewick's Wren, which is on the Fox Ridge check list (not reliable - it has Northern Shrike, but not Red-eyed Vireo), may be extirpated from the park, but was present in a farmyard 4 miles south of the park in 1999 and it may be worthwhile checking the surrounding countryside for them.

## II. LINCOLN TRAIL STATE PARK AND MILL CREEK COUNTY PARK.

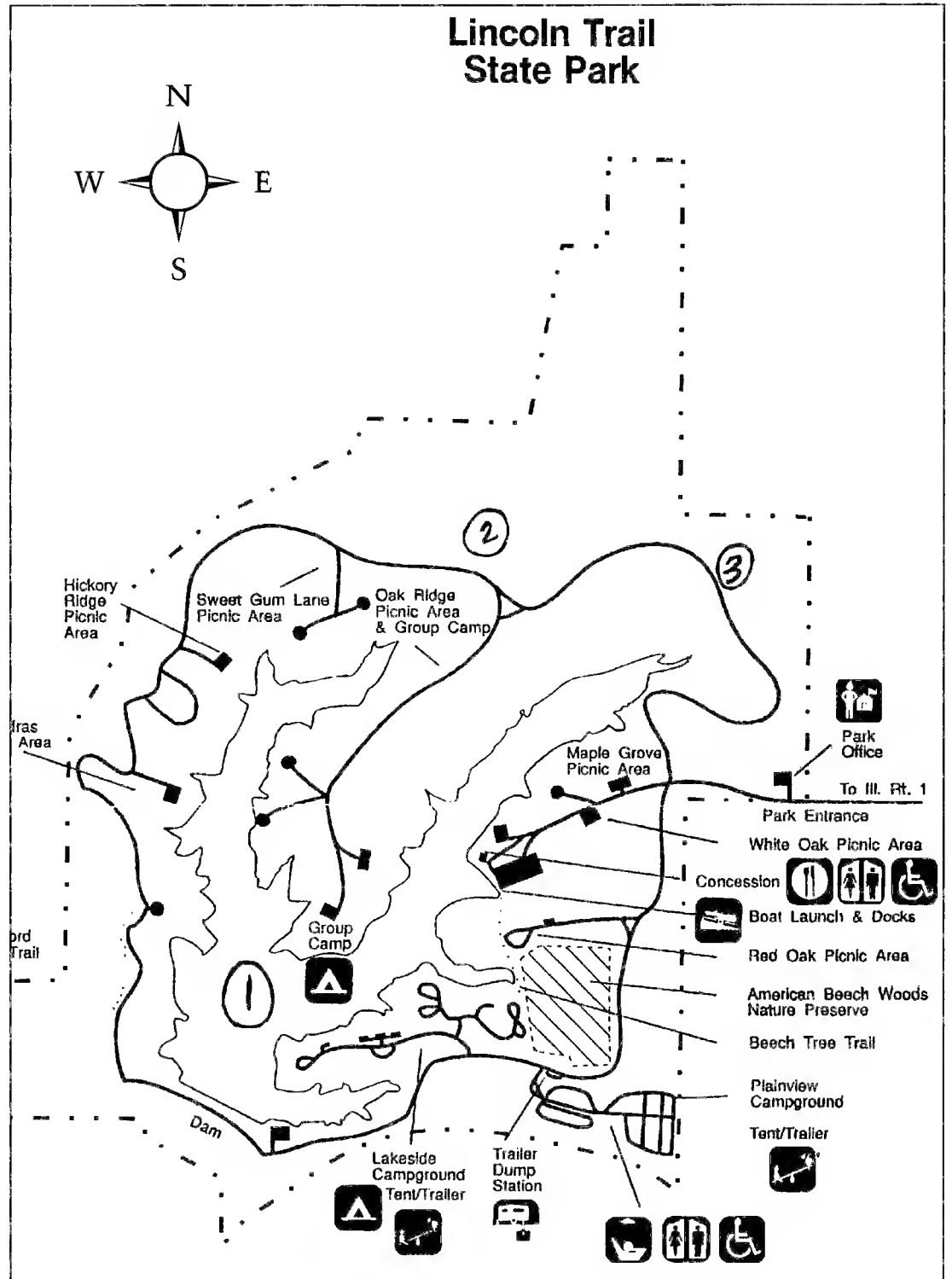
Lincoln Trail State Park is about four miles south of Marshall, Clark County, just east of Illinois 1. In some ways it is similar to Fox Ridge State Park, with several ravine systems. However the ravines are not as deep and there are no trails through the woods. Also, the lake (1) here is much larger than at Fox Ridge.

The park appears to be principally a place for campers, picnickers, and fishermen, although birding opportunities are excellent. The best way to bird this park is by walking the roadsides, especially on the north side (2), although hiking into some of the ravines is also possible. The park is not so extensive that there would likely be a problem in getting lost. However, going off-trail does include the possibility of acquiring poison ivy or ticks.

This park appears to have one of the healthiest populations of Wood Thrushes and Yellow-throated Vireos in east-central Illinois. You'll also find numerous Acadian Flycatchers as well as Red-eyed Vireos, Warbling Vireos, Kentucky Warblers, Northern Parulas, Louisiana Waterthrushes, Yellow-throated Warblers, Ovenbirds, Summer Tanagers, Scarlet Tanagers, and Orchard Orioles. Although most often associated with sycamores, several Yellow-throated Warblers at Lincoln Trail State Park use the numerous pine plantations in the park for breeding (2).

I have only visited this park in the summer, but the large lake looks like a fairly good place for waterfowl during migration as well as winter birds including finches, especially because of the pine plantations.

A nearby area that should also be checked is the Mill Creek County Park area just six miles northeast of Lincoln Trail. The park itself is much less interesting than it would appear from looking at it on a map. It contains a huge lake that could be good during waterfowl migration. However, the lake is very heavily used by motorboats and fisherman, the wooded areas are thin and fragmentary, and it appears the park is primarily covered with picnicking areas and camp grounds (1). Nevertheless, the park has good populations of



both tanagers and a very good population of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers.

While the area marked "trails" on the west side of the park is actually ATV trails, just to the west of the trailhead (2) is an excellent stretch of roadway (County Road 1900N) that contains a very good population of Eastern Bluebirds. After a half-mile, the road enters a small wooded area (3), that has Kentucky Warblers and Northern Parulas. Lark Sparrows are also sparsely present in the area west of Mill Creek County Park. Both tanagers

are fairly common in the area.

### III. FAIRMOUNT QUARRY.

The Fairmount Quarry area, near the town of Fairmount, in Vermilion County, is a privately owned area of working and abandoned sand and gravel quarries. The abandoned quarries are in various stages of re-vegetation, and include an area of nearly one square mile of grassland with interspersed marshy areas and ponds. All of these areas are marked "no trespassing" and they evidently take this seriously, so only bird from the road. While that limits the ability to fully



explore all of the birding possibilities, you can still find some good birds here.

To reach the quarry from Interstate 74, exit at Oakwood and drive south until reaching County Road 1350N. This is the main highway to the towns of Catlin and Homer. Go west on this road, then turn and go to Fairmount. Go through Fairmount to County Road 1100N and turn west. Henslow's Sparrows have been along this road in 2000 and 2001 (1 and 2)). There were at least 10 males visible from the road in 2001 and there are probably many more farther back. Grasshopper Sparrows are common here also, while Dickcissels can reach almost distracting densities. Listen and look, also, for Savannah and Vesper Sparrows.

A pond just south of 1100N, just before reaching 400E (3) is worth checking. In migration, small numbers of shorebirds can be found here. One of Vermilion County's two Marbled Godwit delighted many birders on this pond. While standing here, listen for Blue Grosbeaks. I heard or saw five males in this area on one day in 2001. They can often be seen sitting on the wires along 400E both north and south of 1100N. Also look in the shrubby areas when they are singing, as they will often be sitting near the tops of a shrub or cottonwood sapling.

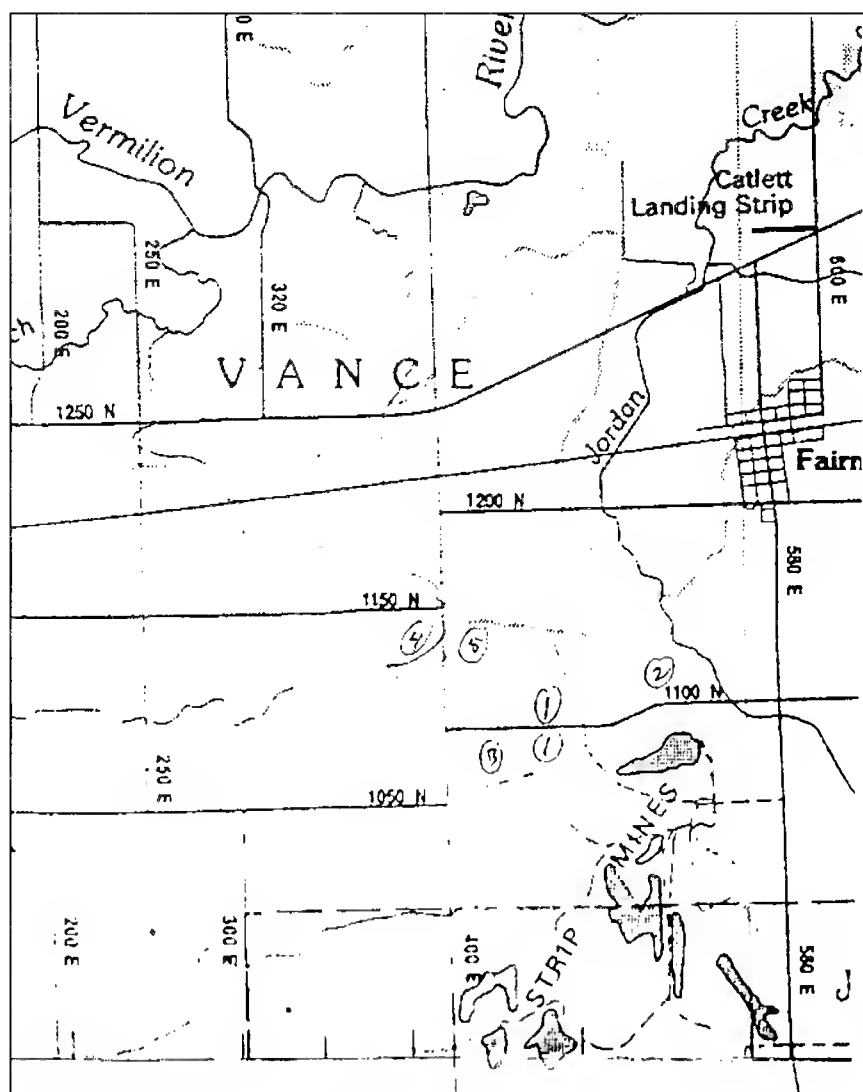
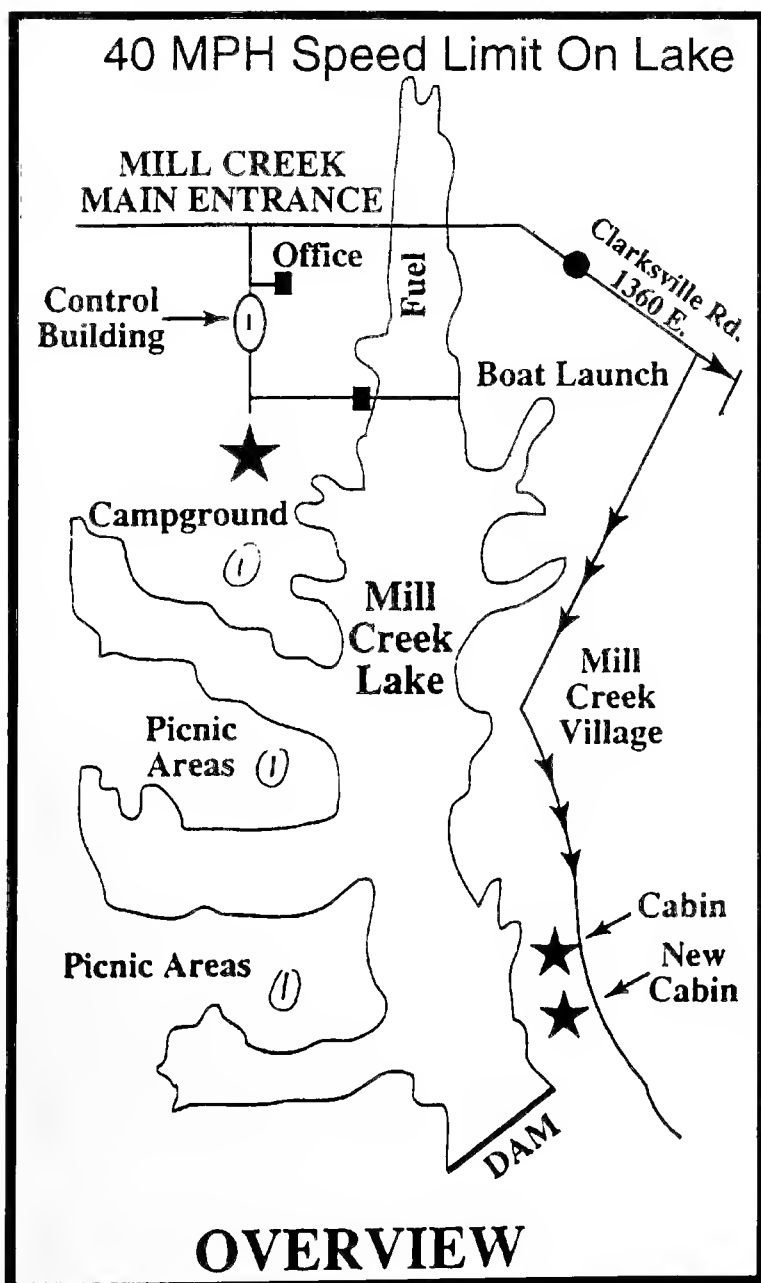
When you reach 400E, briefly turn north and proceed until you pass a large sandy man-made gorge on the west side of the road. To the south of the gorge and west of the road is a flat grassy field (4)

that has had shorebirds, including Buff-breasted Sandpiper

in migration. One of the larger ponds in the area is on the east side of the road here (5). Look for waterfowl, herons, and shorebirds.

Proceed south along 400E, past some farms, looking for birds on the wire along the way. Sometimes a Blue Grosbeak will be sitting right by the roadside. At the intersection of County Roads 400E and 900N, turn east and check the dense shrubs. Orchard Orioles, Indigo Buntings, catbirds, Brown Thrashers, and Eastern Towhees may be joined by the occasional Blue Grosbeak here as well. Farther in, the area becomes more wooded, and some woodland species can be heard from the road. When the wooded area was more accessible, the area had Summer Tanagers, so these may also be a possibility from the roadside.

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Fairmount Quarry

# News from the Literature

## Forest Fragmentation

What's happening to bird species in the United States and around the world could impact or reflect what's happening in Illinois. This issue, we present two recent studies on forest fragmentation, a particularly troublesome problem for breeding birds in Illinois.

### Fragmentation May Limit Songbird Sex Lives

Researchers have discovered a surprising factor in the decline of songbirds in North America: forest fragmentation may put a cramp in their sex lives.

"Our results suggest a new link between social behavior and habitat choice in fragmented landscapes," said Ryan Norris, who did this work at York University in North York, Ontario, Canada, and is now at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, and Bridget Stutchbury of York University.

Norris and Stutchbury studied the effects of fragmentation on male Hooded Warblers (*Wilsonia citrina*). To see if fragmentation restricts this species' movements, the researchers radio tracked 20 of the warblers in forest fragments separated by agricultural fields in northwestern Pennsylvania. Ranging from 1.7 to 6 acres, these isolated fragments were similar in size to the warblers' breeding territories in contiguous forest.

Unexpectedly, Norris and Stutchbury found these low levels of isolation did not restrict the birds' movements. Rather, males in fragments spent far more time out of their territories than those in contiguous forest (about 16% versus 5%), and also flew farther. About 60% of their forays were to woodlots occupied by another pair, suggesting they traveled between fragments primarily to mate with other males' females.

"This 'need' for sex may explain why long-distance forest migrants actually avoid settling in extremely isolated forest fragments. In other words, if there are no opportunities to cheat on your mate then it's not worth settling in certain highly fragmented areas," said Norris.

For more information, contact Norris (613-533-6000 x77593, ryann@biology.queensu.ca) Or Bridget Stutchbury (416-736-2100 x66637).

### Fragmentation Linked to Stress in birds

Amazon forest birds are particularly sensitive to habitat fragmentation. Even patches as big as 250 acres are missing many species, but no one knows why. New research offers a clue: birds in fragments have slower-growing feathers, suggesting they are more stressed, which could decrease survival and reproduction.

"There might be physiological consequences for birds that live in fragments," said Jeff Stratford of Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. He did his research with Philip Stouffer of Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, Louisiana.

Stratford and Stouffer compared feathers from two common bird species (the White-crowned Manakin and the Wedge-billed Woodcreeper) that were captured in either forest fragments or contiguous forest near Manaus, Brazil. To determine how fast the feathers had grown, the researchers measured the daily growth bars. Healthier birds presumably have feathers with wider growth bars.

The researchers found that feathers from birds captured in forest fragments had grown slower: for instance, feathers from birds in 2.5-acre fragments grew 10% slower than those from birds in contiguous forest.

Why do birds in fragments have slower growing feathers? Stratford and Stouffer ruled out the obvious



*The Hooded Warbler, which breeds in Illinois, may exhibit atypical social behavior in fragmented landscapes, according to a recent study. Dennis Oehmke took this photo of a male Hooded Warbler at Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area.*

possibility of insufficient food. The manakin's diet includes fruit, and the woodcreeper eats insects living on tree trunks and branches. Fragmentation does not reduce either type of food.

In fact, fragmentation may not even affect feather growth directly. Rather, less robust birds may be more likely to end up in undesirable habitats like fragments. "We suggest that these birds are social subordinates that are wandering about the landscape," said Stratford.

Birds in fragmented habitats elsewhere may be

even more stressed because the fragmentation in this study was relatively mild. For instance, the forest fragments were separated by pasture and regenerating forest rather than by parking lots and houses.

For more information, contact: Jeff Stratford (334-844-1659, stratja@auburn.edu) or Philip Stouffer (504-549-2191, stouffer@selu.edu)

Stratford, Stouffer, Norris, and Stutchbury's studies were detailed in the June 2001 issue of *Conservation Biology*.

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# A Bird By Any Other Name

by Jim Landing

I saw my first Wamp when it was so cold that I could hardly hold binoculars. Clouds of rising vapor rose off Lake Michigan like fog over the Cascades. I was happy to show it to visiting birders, but the cold and steam took off so much of the edge I doubt few even remember it. Many came from South Bend, and Charles T. Clark of Chicago even got a splotchy photograph. Those birders of a grumpy nature claimed the bird in his photo was not identifiable! What did they know? They had never even seen a real one!

My first recollection of a High-holer was quite different. It was a warm spring day and the call of the bird is one of those that, once heard, is never forgotten. Large and showy, these birds patrol the woodlands of the Chicago area like airplane sentries. I remember this incident so vividly because the bird was tapping the eaves trough along the edge of the roof. I even came out of the house to see what was making the noise.

Many birders have never seen the North American Titlark, but as an old Prison Farm birder in LaPorte County I have seen them scurrying across the furrows in the company of Snowbirds and Spurs. In large flocks they frequently have a lookout perched on a sprig high enough to survey the feeding area and issue forth a soft murmuring alert sound to their companions. Before paved parking lots, these birds were common in the sandy and pebbly areas, and many wintered. Were those the good old days so many talk about? Remember, there was not a McDonald's every linear mile back then.

My first sighting of a Wavy was a strange one. I was walking a farm field when I came across several tons of feathers spread across about an acre. I realized that several hundred birds had bedded there the night before, and to confirm it several of them were still present foraging in the field stubble. Practically the entire North American population can be seen staging in North Dakota when they begin their southbound migration.

I have never been fortunate enough to have seen a Dough-bird. Few living birders have! There is but a single record for Lincoln Park, Chicago, and there may never be another. Some say they are still around, but top ABA birders will not tell anyone but closest friends where they are under secrecy secured by pain of death. Some believe that 1 million acres of Canada has been set aside for their protection, but only elder mute Indians know where the location is and they guard it

with razor sharp tomahawks as sacred ground.

The Titlark and the Blue Peter are seldom found together, but the Blue Peter is one of the most common migrants in the Chicago area, and a common nesting bird. Its numbers vary, and the 1985-1995 period was one of decline, but some evidence is now available indicating recovery. They have a beautiful swamp song, which only about 00.0005% of local birders can identify. In some geographic areas they are known as the Fool Bird, because shoddy hunters are frequently fooled into thinking they are ducks.

The Krieker is one of the most common migrant birds passing through Chicagoland. Some bird guides illustrate the plumage differences between males, females, and juvenile birds, but it still takes a very good eye to really tell the differences when the birds are in molt. Since the fall migrants commonly linger for long periods in good feeding and resting areas, the opportunity to study them closely is readily available.

To me, the male Sprig is among the most delicately and beautifully colored birds of all those found in North America. The shading of the head and wings are among the great delicacies of Mother Nature. In flight their elegance instantly commands attention and, while feeding, their motions are both subtle and superbly handsome. The name Sprig is an insult to their grace and beauty.

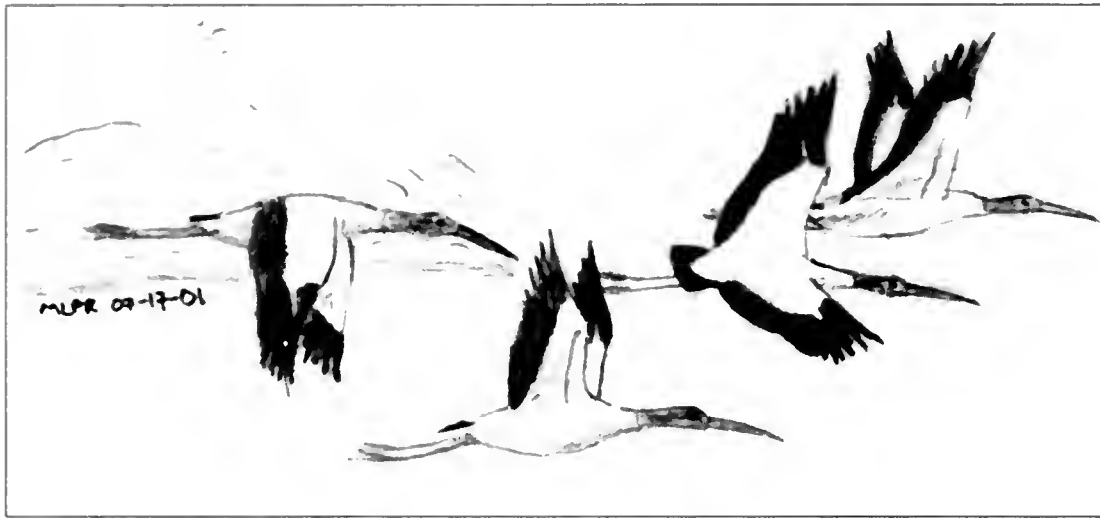
The Rice Bird, named after the son of a President of the United States, is not only plumage-attractive but has one of the prettiest songs of all the birds. Given this combination it is hard to believe that this bird was once hunted to near extinction, and then barely survived the pesticide era. In the Chicago area the rice association is not one of common knowledge, but pastures and meadows, as well as prairies, if you can find a real one, are the areas in which birders will find them, although they are frequently heard long before they are seen.

To the skeptics about these bird names, each one is fully described in the first (1934) edition of the Roger Tory Peterson field guide.

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# Field Notes

## The 2000 Fall Migration

by Robert Chapel

Normal temperatures and precipitation were the rule this fall through September. October was a little warmer than average, but there was a big cool-down in November that brought about a rapid winding down of migration. Despite this, lingering migrants were detected well into December. Notably late migrants include a Barn Swallow at Clinton Lake on 18 Nov (and two there a week earlier), a Wood Thrush in Urbana on 4 Nov, a Northern Waterthrush in Wilmette on 1 Nov, and several late Chipping Sparrows.

The 2000 fall migration did not produce a great number of rarities, but it did have several of high-quality. The most amazing this fall, and perhaps one of the most amazing ever, was a **RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER** discovered at Illinois Beach State Park on 19 Aug and remaining to the end of the period, to the delight of many Illinois birders. (See separate article in this issue.) A second state record **LONG-TAILED JAEGER** spent 2 weeks in September at the cross-dike at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, entertaining dozens of birders as it cooperatively allowed many less-than-car-length views (and photographs). Article to come in *Meadowlark* 10:3. A **SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER** (see *Seasonal Highlights*) at Chautauqua proved less cooperative, as it eluded many observers, frustrated others with distant looks, but afforded still others excellent and long looks during its stay from 23 September to 1 October. The **PAINTED BUNTING** family in the Breeding Season report remained until at least 7 August. (See *Meadowlark* 10:1 for details on this species.)

**Loons - Pelicans:** Common Loons were somewhat scarce this fall. Very few large concentrations were reported, although they were found at the normal times and places. A few Red-throated Loons and one **PACIFIC LOON** were reported among them. Grebes, however, were found in good numbers. Only one **Western Grebe** was reported. American White Pelicans continue to show up in good numbers in the western part of the state, with a few making it to the northeast.

Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge continues to be the prime spot for them, with a peak of 4,500 seen. Chautauqua also had a large concentration, with a censused total of 2,347 at the peak and estimates slightly higher.

**Hérons - Waterfowl:** Southwestern Illinois, particularly near St. Louis, continues to be the prime area for herons, egrets, and ibises. August was the peak month, with 2 **GLOSSY IBISES** and a **WHITE-FACED IBIS**. A **TRI-COLORED HERON** was also reported near Pere Marquette State Park. In September, two *Plegadis Ibis* were found on one day at Carlyle Lake. All of the more common herons and egrets were found in good numbers, also, including peak numbers of 900+ Great Egrets at Horseshoe Lake (East St. Louis) and 700 Little Blue Herons at Stump Lake in Jersey County. An amazing **5 WOOD STORKS** were reported from Massac County (pending review by IORC) on 20 September. The **158** Turkey Vultures seen on 6 October in Lake Forest was an exceptionally good flight. The Chautauqua waterfowl census reported good, but not spectacular, numbers of waterfowl. The winter ducks were all reported, but indications are that peak numbers hadn't been reached by early December. Only one **Harlequin Duck** was reported all fall.

**Hawks - Cranes:** The hawk migration was fairly good. Notable were the numbers of **Golden Eagles** found, particularly in northeastern Illinois, where at least **10** individuals were reported. Also noteworthy were 42 Northern Harriers and 282 Red-tailed Hawks reported from Illinois Beach State Park on 3 November, and 33 Peregrines reported there on 2 October. The elusive **Gray Partridge** put in a brief appearance in DeKalb County where 6 were found on 24 November. Although most rails were scarce this fall, **5 Yellow Rails** were found, including four at Prairie Ridge State Natural Area, where they were located by workers while mowing and discing. Sandhill Crane migration seemed normal until 20 November, when a huge flight of **7,400+** cranes, witnessed all over the Chicago area, hinted at an abrupt end to fall.



**Shorebirds - Terns:** Good concentrations of shorebirds were found at several sites this year, including Horseshoe Lake, Carlyle Lake, and several Chicago areas. By far the most productive area, however, was Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, where thousands of shorebirds showed up when the water reached its optimum level. Highlights at Chautauqua included peak numbers of 60 Black-bellied Plovers, thousands of the common shorebirds, good numbers of American Avocets, both godwits, **450** Long-billed Dowitchers, all three Phalaropes, and a **SHARP-TAILED SAND-PIPER** (pending IORC review). Birders at Horseshoe Lake searching for ibises found 3 Piping Plovers--a remarkable find for southern Illinois. Lakefront birders found several Whimbrels this fall. Stealing the thunder from the shorebirds at Chautauqua were the **LONG-TAILED JAEGER** (2nd state record) and Parasitic Jaeger. The Parasitic Jaeger, while less cooperative, also visited the dike and allowed close views. Several Laughing Gulls were found this fall, with a peak of 3 at Carlyle Lake on 23 September. The only reported **CALIFORNIA GULL** was from Batavia. There were a number of Sabine's Gulls reported this fall, including a peak of 5 at Carlyle Lake on 23 September, an adult there on 12 October, and at least 3 (including one adult) at the Mel Price Lock & Dam in Alton. A few winter gulls had arrived by the end of the fall season.

**Doves - Woodpeckers:** Eurasian Collared-Doves continue their inexorable march into Illinois, including a maximum count of **11** at Carlyle Lake. Outside of their southern Illinois stronghold, **Barn Owls** were found in Chicago's Lincoln Park and at Illinois Beach State Park this fall. A very early Snowy Owl showed up at Lincoln Park on 27 October and delighted numerous birders throughout the rest of fall. Chimney Swifts had a good migration with a peak of **4,000** in

Rockford on 20 September **RUFOUS/Selasphorus Hummingbirds** are proving to be near-regular migrants. *Selasphorus* Hummingbirds documented as Rufous (pending IORC review) were found at East Alton and Springfield this fall. The **RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER** (see page 42) was by far the best bird of the fall.

**Passerines:** The passerine migration was fairly normal this year. Among the good finds were a **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** at Carlyle Lake and a **Spotted Towhee** in Grundy County. A few good high counts were obtained including a whopping **100,000** Tree Swallows at Carlyle Lake; **2,834** (heard and seen) Swainson's Thrushes at Jackson Park, Chicago, on 12 September; and 142 Hermit Thrushes at Grant Park, Chicago, on 12 October. There were some spectacular sparrow fallouts this season, including one along the Chicago lakefront on 15-16 October that produced a total of 17 species at Montrose Harbor's Magic Hedge, and downstate flights on 21 October and 4 November. Smith's Longspurs, usually a spring specialty in downstate Illinois, were found in fairly good numbers (for fall) in McDonough County. Perhaps other western Illinois locations should be checked for this species in the fall. The only winter finches reported in numbers were Red Crossbills and Pine Siskins. While the Red Crossbills settled into favored locations, most of the siskins seemed to be transient and had become scarce by the end of the period. Finally, at least two species of passerines not currently accepted on the Illinois list—Cassin's Vireo and Boat-tailed Grackle—are pending IORC review, while a couple of additional extraordinary passerines are omitted here entirely for lack of documentation.

A special thanks is extended to all contributors to this report, who are listed below in full and by initials following each observation. Observer citations are withheld for records

As a printing aid, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

<b>EA</b> = Earliest arrival(s)	ad. = adult	ph. = photographed	FWA = Fish & Wildlife Area
<b>MC</b> = Maximum Count(s)	imm. = immature	IORC = Illinois Ornithological	L = Lake
<b>LD</b> = Latest Departure(s)	* = documented record	Records Committee	NWR = National Wildlife Refuge
	** = specimen record	Co(s) = County (Counties)	P = Park
	m.ob. = many observers	FP = Forest Preserve	SP = State Park

Carl.L	= Carlyle L (Clinton, Fayette & Bond Cos)
CBG	= Chicago Botanic Garden (Glencoe, Cook Co)
Chau	= Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)
Chi	= Chicago (excluding lakefront areas under JP, GrantP, Linc.P) (Cook Co)
Clin.L	= Clinton L (DeWitt Co)
Evanston	= Evanston (Cook Co)
Fermi	= Fermilab at Batavia (Du Page Co)
GrantP	= Chicago's Grant P and vicinity (south to McCormick Place) (Cook Co)
GrtLakes	= Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co)
HL	= Horseshoe L (Madison Co)
IBSP	= Illinois Beach SP (Lake Co)
JP	= Chicago's Jackson P & vicinity (Cook Co)
LCal	= L Calumet & vicinity (Cook Co)

Linc.P	= Chicago's Lincoln P (Cook Co)
LShel	= L Shelbyville (Moultrie and Shelby Cos)
LSNucPlnt	= La Salle Co Nuclear Plant (La Salle Co)
MTwain	= Mark Twain NWR (Calhoun Co)
Palos	= Palos area Forest Preserves (sw. Cook Co)
PrRdg	= Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (Jasper & Marion Cos)
Rend L	= Rend L (Franklin & Jefferson Cos)
SandRdg	= Sand Ridge State Forest (Mason Co)
Shab.L	= Shabbona L State Recreation Area (De Kalb Co)
Spfld	= Springfield (Sangamon Co)
UCCA	= Union County Conservation Area (Union Co)
Urbana	= Urbana (Champaign Co)
Wauk	= Waukegan (Lake Co)
Wilmette	= Wilmette (Cook Co)

A number in parentheses ( ) indicates the number of birds observed at a particular location or on a particular date. No number signifies single birds.

The 1996 DeLorme Illinois *Atlas & Gazetteer* has been used as the primary source for citation forms of place names.

requiring IORC review. Alphabetization here is by initials of citation form, last name first: Alan Anderson, Cindy Alberico, Connie P. Alwood, Kim Ainis, Louise Augustine, Dale Birkenholz, Frank Bennett, H. Dave Bohlen, Richard Biss, Steve Bailey, Torrey Berger, Vic Berardi, Richard & Sigurd Bjorklund (R&SBj), Elizabeth Chato, Jane Chamberlain, Karin Cassell, Paul Clyne, Robert Chapel, Scott Carpenter, Bill Davidson, Donald Dann, Glyn Dawson, Sheryl DeVore, Becky Dyer (BDy), Jan Eaton, Joshua I. Engel, Robert Erickson, Carolyn Fields, Darlene Fiske, Karen Fisher, Matt Fraker, Robert Fisher, Don Goerne, Urs Geiser, Bryan Holliday, Brian W. Herriott, Cathie Hutcheson, Duane Heaton, Frank Holmes, Harold Henson, James Hampson, Kanai Hirabayashi, Larry Hood, Margaret Hollowell, Robert Hughes, Scott Hickman, Dave Johnson, Dorothy J. Jackson, Dan Kassebaum, Eric Kershner, Vernon Kleen, Greg Lambeth, James Landing, Kent Lannert, Charlene Malone, Jim Malone, Keith McMullen,

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## 2000 Fall Migration Field Notes

### Red-throated Loon

EA: 29 Oct, Clin.L (RC); 12 Nov (ad.), Chi (AS). LD: 25 Nov, Wilmette & Evanston (RH et al.). Others: 18 Nov, IBSP (PS).

### PACIFIC LOON

EA: 14 Nov, Clin.L (\*RC). One undocumented report from Lake Michigan in late Oct.

### Common Loon

EA: 22 Oct (3), Wilmette (UG); 23 Oct, Carl.L (KM); 29 Oct (5), Clin.L (RC). MC: 33, Clin.L, 14 Nov (RC); 30, Wilmette, 28 Oct (RH); 20, Carl.L, 5 Nov (DK). To end of period.

### Pied-billed Grebe

EA: 22 Jul (ad.), Arcola (Douglas Co) (RC); 1 Aug, HL (DK, FH). MC: 125, Clin.L, 21 Oct (RC); 85, Rend L, 27 Nov (LS); 72, Eureka L (Woodford Co), 12 Sep (R&SBj); 67, Mendota (La Salle Co), 12 Sep (JH).

### Horned Grebe

EA: **29 Aug** (imm.), Mendota (La Salle Co) (JH); 15 Sep, Chau (R&SBj). MC: 104, Rend L, 27 Nov (LS); 40, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 12 Nov (RP); 38, Chi, 11 Nov (RH).

### Red-necked Grebe

EA: 21 Oct, Clin.L (RC). LD: 5 Nov, LShel (RC).

### Eared Grebe

EA: 16 Sep, Chau (HDB, m.ob.). LD: 2 Dec, Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co) (KM); 26-28 Nov, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR). Others: 30 Sep - 1 Oct, Chau (BDy, m.ob.).

### Western Grebe

EA: 18 Nov, Clin.L (LA, KR, RC).

### American White Pelican

EA: 31 Jul (3 imm.), Carl.L (DK); 25 Aug (14), Chau (R&SBj). MC: **4500**, MTwain (Calhoun Co), 16 Sep (HW) — **record fall high count; 2347**, Chau, 15 Sep (R&SBj) — record high count for site; 1200, Depue L (Bureau Co), 30 Oct (JH). LD: 24 Nov, Atkinson Road (Lake Co) (SB) — present since 28 Oct; 16 Nov (24), Chau (R&SBj). Others: 11 Oct (2) - 15 Nov (1), IBSP (VB, JSw, SH).

### Double-crested Cormorant

EA: 14 Jul (39), GrtLakes (EW). MC: **10,000**, Carl.L, 8 Nov (DK); 2200, Senachwine L (Putnam Co), 2 Oct (DFS); 841, Chau, 15 Sep (R&SBj); 300, LSNucPlnt, 22 Oct (C&JMc). LD (north): 26 Nov (7), LSNucPlnt (C&JMc).

### Least Bittern

EA: **1 Aug** (summered?), HL (DK, VK). LD: 23 Sep, Carl.L (DK et al.).

### American Bittern

EA: 12 Sep, Evanston (EW); 12 Sep, Linc.P (GW). MC: 2, Pecatonica (Winnebago Co), 14 Oct (DW). LD: 17 Nov, Linc.P (EW, JL). Others: 13 Sep, Linc.P (AS); 18 Oct, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co) (LS); 1 Nov, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co) (LS); 11 Nov, IBSP (PS).

### Great Blue Heron

MC: 310, Pekin (Tazewell Co), 7 Sep (R&SBj); 92, Monroe



American White Pelicans. 13 September 2000. Lake Chautauqua, Mason County. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Co, 23 Sep (JZ); 31, LSNucPlnt, 1 Aug (C&JMc). To end of period.

### Great Egret

EA: 27 Jul, Urbana (University of Illinois) (RC). MC:900+, HL, 9 Aug (WR); 405, Chau, 10 Aug (R&SBj); 81, MacDonald Woods FP (Lake Co), 24 Aug (SH). LD: 30 Nov, HL (FH); 3 Nov (6), IBSP (EW et al.).

### Snowy Egret

EA: 23 Aug, Moraine Hills SP (McHenry Co) (RP). MC:175, HL, 12 Aug (KM, DK) — **record high count**. LD: 14 Oct (ad.), Carl.L (DK); 6-27 Aug (ad.), LCal (AS, WJM). Others: 5 Aug, Herrick L FP (Du Page Co) (UG).

### Little Blue Heron

EA: 3 Aug (3 imm.), Herrick L FP (Du Page Co) (RF, KF). MC:700, Stump L (Jersey Co), 6 Aug (KM) — **record high count**; 17 (imm.), Chau, 10 Aug (R&SBj); 8, LCal, 6 Aug (AS). LD: 2 Oct, HL (FH); 10 Sep (2 ad.), LCal (AS).

### TRICOLORED HERON

EA: 7 Jul, Carl.L (\*) — pending IORC review. LD: 4-7 Aug, Pere Marquette SP (Jersey Co) (SB, \*RC, \*DK:ph., m.ob.).

### Cattle Egret

EA: 9 Jul (2 ad.), Champaign (Champaign Co) (RC). MC: 200, Carl.L, 19 Aug (KM, DK, FB). LD: 16 Nov, Mel Price Lock & Dam (Madison Co) (FH).

### Green Heron

MC: 38, Carl.L, 19 Aug (KM, DK, FB); 14, Almond Marsh FP (Lake Co), 4 Aug (RP). LD: 27 Oct, Chau (R&SBj).

### Black-crowned Night-Heron

EA: 19 Aug, Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 25 Aug (2 ad.), Chau (R&SBj); 12 Sep (9), Evanston (EW). MC: 32, HL, 4 Aug (KM); 8, Morris (Grundy Co), 19 Aug (DJS). LD: 30 Nov (2 imm.), Chau (R&SBj).

### Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

MC: 4, Carl.L, 15-19 Aug (DK). LD: 20 Aug, LCal (UG, WJM).

### GLOSSY IBIS

3-8 Aug (ad.), HL (KL, \*DK, WR, m.ob.); 5-7 Aug (ad.), Stump L (Jersey Co) (CM, \*DK).

### WHITE-FACED IBIS

17-27 Aug (ad.), HL (\*DK, FH, m.ob.).

### Ibis (*Plegadis*), sp?

16-23 Sep, Carl.L (\*DK:ph., m.ob.); 23 Sep, Carl.L (DK, IOS).

### WOOD STORK

MC: 5, Massac Co, 20 Sep (\*FB).

### Black Vulture

MC: 16, Carbondale (Jackson Co), 23 Oct (RM).

### Turkey Vulture

MC: 158, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 6 Oct (JSu et al.) — third highest fall count on record; 89, Monroe Co, 30 Sep (JZ); 81, Danville (Vermilion Co), 19 Nov (RC). LD (north): 19 Nov (3), LSNucPlnt and Illini SP (La Salle Co) (DJS).

### Greater White-fronted Goose

EA: 14 Oct (60), Carl.L (DK). MC: 800, Chau, 21 Oct (KR, LA); 300, Clin.L, 21 Oct (RC); 18, Fermi, 4 Nov (UG, m.ob.). Others: 26 Nov, Fermi (AS). **Record fall high counts.**

### Snow Goose

EA: 23 Sep, Carl.L (KM, IOS); 5 Oct, Grayslake (Lake Co) (SH); 29 Oct (5), Clin.L (RC). MC: 8000, Carl.L, 18 Nov - end of period (DK); 170, Evanston, 29 Oct (EW). LD (north): 26



Greater White-fronted Geese with Canada Geese. 11 October 2000. Lake Renwick, Will County. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich. As many as 33 Greater White-fronted Geese were present here in middle October.

Nov (6 ad. — 5 white morph, 1 blue morph), Fermi (AS).

### Ross's Goose

EA: 11-12 Oct, Winnetka (Cook Co) (fide EW, m.ob.:ph.). LD: 2 Dec, UCCA (KM, DK, FB); 29 Nov, Rockford (Winnebago Co) (DW). Others: 14 Oct, Skokie Lagoons FP (Cook Co) (PS); 8-23 Nov, Fermi (JP, UG, m.ob.); 18 Nov, Little Swan L (Warren Co) (LH); 19 Nov, Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB).

### Canada Goose

EA: 4 Sep (105), Evanston (EW). MC: 3000, Shab.L (DJS); 890, Chau, 25 Aug (R&SBj); 615, Kane Co, 21 Oct (DFS). "Richardson's Goose" — EA: 16 Oct, Winnebago Co (UG). MC: 425, Bloomington (McLean Co), 2 Nov (MR); 300+, s. Woodford Co, 24 Nov (MF).

### Mute Swan

MC: 29, Deer L FP (Lake Co), 12 Oct (EW).

### Tundra Swan

EA/MC: 68, IBSP, 11 Nov (AA et al.); 15, Chau, 30 Nov (R&SBj). LD: 10 Dec, Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB).

### Wood Duck

MC: 700, Stump L (Jersey Co), 6 Aug (KM) — **record fall high count**; 151, Chau, 15 Aug (R&SBj); 83, JP, 3 Sep (PC). LD (north): 26 Nov, LSNucPlnt (C&JMc).

### Gadwall

EA: 13 Aug, LCal (UG); 17 Aug (3), Carl.L (DK). MC:2000, Chau, 9 Nov (R&SBj); 1600, HL, 15 Nov (KM); 416, LSNucPlnt, 29 Oct (C&JMc).

### American Wigeon

EA: 12 Sep, Clin.L (RC). MC: 725, Chau, 9 Nov (R&SBj); 225, Palos, 20 Oct (WS).

### American Black Duck

EA: 13 Aug, LCal (UG); 19 Aug, HL (DK, KM, FB). MC:1083, Chau, 30 Nov (R&SBj); 350, LSNucPlnt, 19 Nov (C&JMc).

### Mallard

EA: 3 Sep (141), JP (PC). MC: 120,465, Chau, 30 Nov (R&SBj); 50,000, LSNucPlnt, 21 Nov (SB).

### Blue-winged Teal

EA: 7 Aug (30), Carl.L (DK). MC: 2500, Chau, 14 Sep (KM, LA, KR); 250, Carl.L, 20 Aug (DK). LD: 5 Nov, Kankakee (Kankakee Co)-(DFS); 4 Nov (60), Carl.L (DK).

**Northern Shoveler**

EA: 8 Aug (10), HL, (DK). MC: **3473**, Chau, 9 Nov (R&SBj); 800, Senachwine L (Putnam Co), 7 Nov (DFS); 150, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM); 35, LSNucPlnt, 17 Oct (C&JMc). LD (north): 25 Nov (pair), Evanston (EW).

**Northern Pintail**

EA: 6 Aug, HL (DK); 6 Aug, Oswego (Kendall Co) (DFS). MC: 8595, Chau, 9 Nov (R&SBj).

**Green-winged Teal**

EA: 28 Jun (male — summer straggler?), JP (PC); 22 Jul (2), Arcola (Douglas Co) (RC); 23 Jul (3), GrtLakes (EW). MC: 3581, Chau, 2 Nov (R&SBj); 1000, HL, 15 Nov (KM). To end of period.

**Canvasback**

EA: 15 Sep, Chau (R&SBj); 24 Oct, Grayslake (Lake Co) (RP). MC: 20, Carl.L, 4 Nov (DK); 16, Chau, 30 Nov (R&SBj).

**Redhead**

EA: 16 Sep (male), GrtLakes (EW). MC: 150, Carl.L, 4 Nov (DK); 70, Evanston, 25 Nov (EW).

**Ring-necked Duck**

EA: 4-12 Aug (eclipse male — summered?), HL (KM, DK); 15 Sep (male), Evanston (EW). MC: 980, Chau, 9 Nov (R&SBj); 232, Grayslake (Lake Co), 16 Nov (RP).

**Greater Scaup**

EA: 4 Oct (250), IBSP (PS). MC: 4500, IBSP, 14 Nov (EW).

**Lesser Scaup**

EA: 8 Oct, Fermi (UG); 29 Oct, Clin.L (RC). MC: 2510, Chau, 9 Nov (R&SBj); 1500, Clin.L, 14 Nov (RC); 1200, Carl.L, 4 Nov (DK); 1140, IBSP, 14 Nov (EW).

**Scaup, sp.**

MC: 4500, IBSP, 3 Nov (EW).

**Surf Scoter**

EA: 28 Oct (4), IBSP (AS); 28 Oct, Shab.L (DJS). LD: 25 Nov (2 males), IBSP (PS, AS); 25 Nov, Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co) (SH — same as previous?); 19 Nov (imm.), Carl.L (DK:ph.).

**White-winged Scoter**

EA: 4 Oct, IBSP (PS). MC: 4, Wilmette, 23 Nov (AS). Others: 6-19 Nov, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (CPA, m.ob.).

**Black Scoter**

MC: 10, Evanston, 21 Oct (EW, RH); 10, Highland P (Lake Co), 28 Oct (RP). LD: 19 Nov (imm.), Carl.L (DK); 13 Nov, Fermi (JP).

**Harlequin Duck**

17 Nov (ad. male), IBSP (AS).

**Long-tailed Duck**

EA: 19 Nov, Wilmette (UG). MC: 6, Evanston, 25 Nov (EW et al). Others (inland): 26 Nov - 3 Dec, Rock Cut SP (DW).

**Bufflehead**

EA: 5 Oct (male), CBG (MM); 4 Nov (female), Carl.L (DK). MC: 73, Chau, 15 Nov (R&SBj); 58 (35 males), GrtLakes, 14 Nov (EW).

**Common Goldeneye**

EA: 28 Oct, Evanston (UG); 11 Nov, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (KM); 18 Nov, Clin.L (RC). MC: 60, LSNucPlnt, 19 Nov (C&JMc); 22, Chau, 30 Nov (R&SBj).

**Hooded Merganser**

EA: 2 Sep, Wauk (PS); 7 Nov, Clin.L (RC). MC: 173, Palos, 18 Sep (CT); 81, Chau, 16 Nov (R&SBj); 54, IBSP, 14 Nov (EW); 54, LSNucPlnt, 19 Nov (C&JMc).

**Common Merganser**

EA: 12 Nov (2), LSNucPlnt (C&JMc). MC: 400, LSNucPlnt, 26 Nov (C&JMc).

**Red-breasted Merganser**

EA: 16 Aug, Wauk (RP) — record early if true migrant; 3 Sep, Lake Forest (Lake Co) (WM); 4 Nov (3 females), Carl.L (DK). MC: 1550, GrantP, 2 Dec (DFS); 20, Carbondale (Jackson Co), 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB).

**Ruddy Duck**

EA: **6 Aug (38)**, Madison Co (KM) — a notably large number for s. Illinois so early in season. MC: 1419, Chau, 2 Nov (R&SBj); 440, Clin.L, 4 Nov (RC); 190, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 11 Nov (DK). Others: 22-29 Jul (2 in eclipse plumage - summering?), HL (DK).

**Osprey**

EA: 18 Jul, Heyworth (McLean Co) (MR); 21 Jul, Rockford (Winnebago Co) (DW); 23 Jul (ad.), Carl.L (DK); 3 Sep (2), Bakers L (Cook Co) (CF); 15 Sep, Clear L (Mason Co) (R&SBj). MC: 5, Rockford (Winnebago Co), 4 Sep (DW); 5, MTwain, 17 Sep (TB); 5, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 14 Sep (RB). LD: 10 Nov, IBSP (VB et al.).

**Mississippi Kite**

MC: 4 (2 pair), Clear Creek Levee (Union Co), 12 Aug (RM). LD: 18 Aug (2), near Carbondale (Jackson Co) (RM).

**Bald Eagle**

EA: **28 Jul** (1st-year), Ridott (Stephenson Co) (DW); 4 Aug (imm.), Carl.L (DK); 8 Aug (old imm.), Winnetka (Cook Co) (EW). MC: 20 (12 ad.), Chau, 30 Nov (R&SBj). Others: 4 south; 12 central; 39 north.

**Northern Harrier**

EA: 12 Aug, Chau (KM, IOS); 12 Aug, Pratts Wayne Woods FP (Du Page Co) (UG). MC: 42, IBSP, 3 Nov (EW et al.).

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**

EA: 17 Aug (2), Chau (R&SBj). MC: 66, IBSP, 7 Oct (WS); 60+, IBSP, 3 Nov (RH et al.).

**Cooper's Hawk**

EA: 19 Aug, JP (KC). MC: 16, IBSP, 3 Nov (EW).

**Northern Goshawk**

EA: 26 Sep, IBSP (RP). MC: 4, IBSP, 3 Nov (PS). Others: 6 Oct, IBSP (EW, RE); 10 Oct, Chi (AA); 14 Nov (imm.), Clin.L (RC).

**Red-shouldered Hawk**

EA: 13 Sep, IBSP (PS). MC: **16**, IBSP, 3 Nov (EW et al.) — record fall high count. LD: 20 Nov, Wauk (DJ et al.); 13 Nov, Urbana (RC).

**Broad-winged Hawk**

EA: 30 Aug (3), Rock Cut SP (DW). MC: 3355, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 18 Sep (RB); 540, McLean Co & Chau, 23 Sep (WS et al.). LD: 7 Oct, Carl.L (DK).

**Red-tailed Hawk**

MC: **282**, IBSP, 3 Nov (PS et al.); 15, Clinton Co, 25 Oct (KM). Western subspecies — EA: 12-18 Nov (dark morph), Shattuc (Clinton Co) (DK); 14 Nov, IBSP (EW). "Harlan's Hawk" — 6 Oct, Aviston (Clinton Co) (DK); 14 Oct, Monroe Co (JZ); 18 Nov, Carl.L (WR). "Kriger's Hawk" — 10 Nov, Monroe Co (JZ).

**Rough-legged Hawk**

EA: 4 Oct, IBSP (PS); 5 Nov, Carl.L (KM, DK, FB); 14 Nov, Clin.L (RC). MC: 13, IBSP, 20 Nov (JSw). Others (south): 26 Nov, Union Co (RM). Undocumented reports in the first half of Sep have been suppressed.

**Golden Eagle**

EA: 6 Oct (ad.), IBSP (EW, RE:ph.). Others: 9 Oct (ad.), IBSP (JSw); 21 Oct (imm.), Blackwell FP (Du Page Co) (UG, m.ob.); 25 Oct (imm.), IBSP (VB); 27 Oct (ad.), IBSP (EW, m.ob.); 3 Nov (ad.), Fermi (UG, m.ob.); 3 Nov (ad.), IBSP (VB et al.); 14 Nov (imm.), IBSP (EW et al.); 16 Nov, Chau (R&SBj); 18 Nov, West Chicago (Du Page Co) (JP). LD: 26 Nov (imm.), UCCA (RM); 20 Nov (ad.), IBSP (VB, JSw).



Excellent flight.

#### American Kestrel

**MC:** 13, Monroe Co, 11 Sep (JZ); 12, Kendall Co, 19 Aug (DFS).

#### Merlin

**EA:** 17 Aug (imm.), HL (DK); 1 Sep, IBSP (AA); 16 Sep (imm.), Emden (Logan Co) (RC). **MC:** 6, IBSP, 6 Oct (EW); 6, IBSP, 3 Nov (PS). **LD:** 27 Nov, Rend L (LS); 16 Nov, Urbana (RC); 11 Nov, IBSP (AS). **Others:** 21 south; 4 central; 20 north.

#### Peregrine Falcon

**EA:** 20 Aug (ad. tundrius), Carl.L (DK); 12 Sep (imm.), Mansfield (Piatt Co) (RC). **MC:** 33, IBSP, 2 Oct (JSw) — **2nd highest Illinois count**; 3 (imm.), Chau, 30 Sep (KR, m.ob.). **LD:** 18 Nov, Clin.L (RC); 18 Nov (2), IBSP (PS). **Others:** 29 Jul - 18 Sep (imm. anatum, hacked?), E. St. Louis (St. Clair Co) (DK, KM, m.ob.); 18 Nov (with jesses), CBG (AA); 1 south; 3 central; 38 north.

#### Gray Partridge

**MC:** 6, Somonauk (De Kalb Co), 24 Nov (DJS).

#### Greater Prairie-Chicken

**MC:** 20, PrRdg (Marion Co), 4 Oct (SS); 20, PrRdg (Jasper Co), 21 Nov (SS).

#### Wild Turkey

**MC:** 20, HL, 14 Nov (FH); 8, L Rawson (Bureau Co), 2 Oct (DFS); 7 (4 males), Fairmount (Vermilion Co), 30 Nov (JOS).

#### Northern Bobwhite

**MC:** 24, Carl.L, 11 Nov (DK).

#### Yellow Rail

**EA:** 3 Oct (2), PrRdg (Marion Co) (SS). **LD:** 3 Nov, PrRdg (Jasper Co) (SS). **Others:** 4 Oct, PrRdg (Marion Co) (SS); 18 Oct, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co) (\*LS); 19 Oct, PrRdg (Jasper Co) (SS); 1 Nov, PrRdg (Jasper Co) (SS). All PrRdg birds found while mowing or disking fields at the refuge.

#### Virginia Rail

**LD:** 9 Sep, IBSP (PS).

#### Sora

**EA:** 13 Aug, Arcola (Douglas Co) (RC); 20 Aug (2 imm.), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 12, Carl.L, 1 Oct (KM, FB, DK). **LD:** 1

Nov, Franklin Co (LS); 15 Oct, Fermi (PS).

#### Common Moorhen

**EA:** 1-7 Aug (ad.), HL (DK:ph., KM, m.ob.). **LD:** 23 Sep, Pratts Wayne Woods FP (Du Page Co) (UG).

#### American Coot

**MC:** 6000, Clin.L, 4 Nov (RC); 5000, Carl.L, 5 Nov (KM, DK, FB); 2000, LSNucPlnt 29 Oct (C&JMc); 1500, Shab.L (DJS).

#### Sandhill Crane

**EA:** 14 Sep (4), IBSP (JSw). **MC:** 7400+, Cook & Lake Cos, 20 Nov (RB, CW, CF, m.ob.) — **largest flight on record**, including unprecedented numbers over downtown Chi (but note that total is not a single-party count). **Others:** 20 Oct - 5 Nov, Champaign (Champaign Co) (MH, m.ob.). A few to end of period.

#### Black-bellied Plover

**EA:** 6 Aug, LCal (AS, WJM); 6 Aug (ad.), HL (DK, KM). **MC:** 60, Chau, 21 Oct (KR, LA); 6, IBSP, 6 Oct (EW). **LD:** 3-4 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 3 Nov, IBSP (EW, AS).

#### American Golden-Plover

**EA:** 29 Jun (ad.), Santa Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co) (DK). **MC:** 36, Chau, 15 Sep (R&SBj); 19, Momence (Kankakee Co), 27 Aug (PS). **LD:** 18 Nov (injured), Shab.L (\*DJS); 3-5 Nov (2), Carl.L (DK, FB, KM).

#### Semipalmated Plover

**EA:** 22 Jul, GrtLakes (AS); 27 Jul (2 ad.), Carl.L (DK); 29 Jul (2), Clin.L (RC). **MC:** 22, Chau, 17 Aug (R&SBj); 15, Carl.L, 9 Sep (DK); 12, GrtLakes, 26 Aug (PS). **LD:** 17 Oct, Clin.L (RC).

#### Piping Plover

**EA/MC:** 3, HL, 6-9 Aug (\*DK, KM, WR). **LD:** 24 Sep, Chau (MR et al.); 29 Sep, Rend L (FB). **Others:** 14 Sep, Chau (KM, KR, LA).

#### Killdeer

**MC:** 1135, e. Kankakee Co, 12 Aug (DFS); 400, HL, 16 Aug (KM). To end of period. **Others:** 12 Aug (leucistic), Momence (Kankakee Co) (DFS).

#### American Avocet

**EA:** 13 Jul, Rockford (Winnebago Co) (BH); 17 Jul (ad. male), GrtLakes (JIE); 6 Aug, Chau (RC); 19 Aug (4 ad.), Carl.L (DK, KM, FB). **MC/LD:** 16, Chau, 19-27 Oct (LH, R&SBj). **Others:** 30 Aug, GrtLakes (SH); 9 Sep (2), Carl.L (DK); 16 Sep, Carl.L (DK, FB, KM); 3-21 Oct, Fermi (AS, m.ob.); 17 Oct (2), LSNucPlnt (C&JMc); 26 Oct, Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co) (\*RM).

#### Greater Yellowlegs

**EA:** 29 Jun (ad.), Santa Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co) (DK); 15 Jul; De Kalb Co (DJS); 15 Jul, Bloomingdale (Du Page Co) (UG). **MC:** 107, Clear L (Mason Co), 5 Oct (R&SBj); 37, Carl.L, 21 Oct (DK). **LD:** 12 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 3 Nov, IBSP (EW); 3 Nov, Hidden Valley FP (Du Page Co) (UG).

#### Lesser Yellowlegs

**EA:** 28 Jun, Madison Co (JZ); 2 Jul, Banner Marsh (Fulton Co) (RC); 2 Jul (7), LCal (JL); 22 Jul (ad.), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 2139, Chau, 10 Aug (R&SBj); 382, De Kalb Co, 20 Jul (DJS). **LD:** 3 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 29 Oct, McKee Marsh (Du Page Co) (UG). **Others:** 11 Jun, Wauk (CF) — heading South, but date indicates late spring migrant.

#### Solitary Sandpiper

**EA:** 8 Jul, Des Plaines River Wetlands Demonstration Project (Lake Co) (AS); 22 Jul (2), Arcola (Douglas Co) (RC); 22 Jul (LShel)



*Spotted Sandpiper. 9 October 2000. Lake Springfield, Springfield, IL.  
Photo by Dennis Oehmke.*

(RC); 22 Jul, Champaign (Champaign Co) (RC); 22 Jul (10 ad.), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 15, HL, 6 Aug (KM). **LD:** 9 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 1 Oct, Blackwell FP (Du Page Co) (UG).

#### Willet

**EA:** 30 Jun (ad.), Carl.L (DK); 17 Jul, GrtLakes (JIE). **MC:** 9, GrtLakes, 8 Jul (EW). **LD:** 3 Sep, GrtLakes (SB, SD).

#### Spotted Sandpiper

**MC:** 16, LCal, 4 Jul (JL); 15, Chau, 29 Jul (R&SBj). **LD:** 12 Nov, Rend L (LS); 14 Oct, CBG (AS).

#### Upland Sandpiper

**LD:** 29 Aug, JP (PC, BWH); 20 Aug, Monmouth (Warren Co) (PR). **Others:** 13 Aug, Linc.P (JL).

#### Whimbrel

**EA:** 27 Aug, Evanston (EW). **LD:** 3 Sep, JP (PC). **Others:** 2 Sep, IBSP (SH).

#### Hudsonian Godwit

**EA:** 6 Aug, Chau (RC). **Others:** 12 Aug, Chau (RC, DW et al.); 24 Sep, Chau (MR).

#### Marbled Godwit

**EA:** 11-18 Aug (ad.), HL (JM, CM, WR, DK, m.ob.); 17 Aug, Clin.L (RC). **MC:** 4, Chau, 25 Aug (R&SBj) — only the second fall tally greater than 3 birds. **LD:** 4 Sep (2), Chau (RC, m.ob.).

#### Ruddy Turnstone

**EA/MC:** 8, Carl.L, 27 Jul (DK). **MC:** 8, IBSP, 3 Sep (DW). **LD:** 6 Oct, IBSP (EW); 21 Sep, Carl.L (DK).

#### Red Knot

**EA:** 18 Aug (ad.), HL (DK); 20 Aug, Monmouth (Warren Co) (PR); 30 Aug, GrtLakes (SH); 4 Sep, Chau (LA, m.ob.). **MC:** 6, Wilmette, 14 Sep (EW); 3, Chau, 26 Sep (HDB, DB, MR). **LD:** 21 Sep (1 ad., 1 imm.), GrtLakes (CF). **Others** (downstate): 9-10 Sep, Carl.L (DK:ph., RC).

#### Sanderling

**EA:** 14 Jul (9 ad.), GrtLakes (EW); 20 Jul (2 ad.), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 360, IBSP, 13 Sep (EW) — **easy record high count** (previously 200+, 23 Sep 1995); 10, Chau, 14 Sep (KM, KR, LA). **LD:** 14 Nov (imm.), IBSP (EW).

#### Semipalmated Sandpiper

**EA:** 14 Jul (5), GrtLakes (EW); 27 Jul (24 ad.), Carl.L (DK); 29 Jul (3), Clin.L (RC). **MC:** 1169, Chau, 31 Aug (R&SBj); 205, Carl.L, 9 Sep (KM); 170, LCal, 10 Sep (AS). **LD:** 1 Oct, Carl.L (KM, DK, FB); 10 Sep, JP (PC).

#### Western Sandpiper

**EA:** 30 Jul (ad.), LCal (JL, WJM); 6 Aug (2), Chau (RC); 6 Aug, HL (KM). **LD:** 9 Sep (3 imm.), Carl.L (DK, KM); 4 Sep (2), Chau (RC); 4 Sep, Monmouth (Warren Co) (PR); 3 Sep, LCal (GW, AS).

#### Least Sandpiper

**EA:** 24 Jun (2) LCal (JL); 17 Jul (21), Stump L (Jersey Co) (KM); 22 Jul (30), LShel (RC); 22 Jul, Champaign (Champaign Co) (RC). **MC:** 300, HL, 17 Aug (KM); 266, Chau, 3 Aug (R&SBj); 91, LCal, 23 Jul (JL). **LD:** 5 Nov (13), Carl.L (DK); 5 Nov, HL (FH); 4 Nov (2), Clin.L (RC).

#### White-rumped Sandpiper

**EA:** 3 Sep (2), LCal (GW, AS); 4 Sep, Chau (RC); 4 Sep (5 ad.), Evergreen L (McLean Co) (MR). **MC:** 10, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). **LD:** 1 Oct, Carl.L (DK, FB, KM).

#### Baird's Sandpiper

**EA:** 18 Jul, GrtLakes (CF); 22 Jul, LShel (RC); 10-18 Aug



*Red Knot. 7 September 2000. Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Lake County. Photo by Carolyn Fields.*

(ad.), HL (DK). **MC:** 10, Chau, 24 Sep (MR, RC, JGR); 8, Carl.L, 9 & 16 Sep (DK, m.ob.); 6, GrtLakes, 21 Sep (CF); 6 (imm.), LCal, 4 Sep (WJM). **LD:** 19 Nov, GrtLakes (\*DD); 5 Nov (imm.), Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 4 Nov, Clin.L (RC).

#### Pectoral Sandpiper

**EA:** 16 Jul, Areola (Douglas Co) (RC); 16 Jul (2), LCal (JL); 17 Jul (6), Stump L (Jersey Co) (KM). **MC:** 3292, Chau, 25 Aug (R&SBj); 1500, HL, 6 Aug (KM); 193, LCal, 13 Aug (AS). **LD:** 5 Nov (6 imm.), Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 4 Nov, Clin.L (RC); 3 Nov (3), IBSP (EW).

#### SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER

23 Sep - 1 Oct, Chau (KR, \*RC, \*MR, AS, m.ob.). See seasonal highlights.

#### Dunlin

**EA:** 12 Sep, Clin.L (RC); 18 Sep, Linc.P (GW); 7 Oct (8), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 100, Wilmette, 28 Oct (RH); 60, LSNucPInt, 22 Oct (C&JMc); 45, Marshall Co, 7 Nov (DFS); 35, Carl.L, 5 Nov (KM, DK, FB); 19, Clin.L, 21 Oct (RC). **LD:** 1 Dec, GrtLakes (JIE).

#### Stilt Sandpiper

**EA:** 4 Jul, LCal (JL); 22 Jul (ad.), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 143, Chau, 10 Aug (R&SBj); 45 (imm.), Carl.L, 2 Sep (DK); 30 (ad.), Carl.L, 27 Jul (DK); 30, LCal, 10 Sep (PS). **LD:** 22 Oct, HL (FH).

#### Buff-breasted Sandpiper

**EA:** 17 Aug (2 imm.), HL (DK); 26 Aug, IBSP (AS). **MC:** 16 (imm.), Carl.L, 2 Sep (DK); 13, Homer L (Champaign Co), 30-31 Aug (RC, SB, m.ob.). **LD:** 14 Sep (4), Chau (KM, KR, LA); 10 Sep, West Chicago (Du Page Co) (UG); 9 Sep Carl.L (DK, KM).

#### Short-billed Dowitcher

**EA:** 2 Jul, LCal (JL); 4 Aug (ad.), HL (DK, KM). **MC:** 60, Chau, 17 Aug (R&SBj); 39, LCal, 23 Jul (AS). **LD:** 14 Sep (4), Chau (KM, KR, LA); 10 Sep (2), LCal (AS).

#### Long-billed Dowitcher

**EA:** 9 Sep (2 ad.), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 450, Chau, 21 Oct (KR, LA) — record high count by 50 birds; 25, MTwain, 14 Oct (WR). **LD:** 5 Nov, Carl.L (DK, FB, KM).

#### Common Snipe

**EA:** 6 Aug, Stump L (Jersey Co) (KM). **MC:** 160, Carl.L, 3 Nov (DK). **LD:** 30 Nov (6), Chau (R&SBj); 14 Nov, Linc.P (GW).

**American Woodcock**

**EA:** 12 Sep, IBSP (DJ); 8 Oct, Urbana (RC et al.). **LD:** 15 Nov, Bloomington (McLean Co) (JC — window kill); 9 Nov, Lenzburg (St. Clair Co) (TM); 29 Oct, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (C&JMc).

**Wilson's Phalarope**

**EA:** 20 Jul, De Kalb Co (DJS); 30 Jul (2), Pekin (Tazewell Co) (RC); 6 Aug (2), HL (KM, DK). **LD:** 14 Sep, Chau (KM, KR, LA); 27 Aug, LCal (AS, m.ob.).

**Red-necked Phalarope**

**EA:** 6 Aug, Chau (RC); 17-18 Aug (imm.), HL (DK); 26 Aug, GrtLakes (GW, AS, PS). **MC:** 3, Chau, 4 Sep (RC). **LD:** 30 Sep - 4 Oct (imm.), Carl.L (DK, KM, FB, m.ob.); 1 Oct (imm.), LCal (JL, WJM).

**Red Phalarope**

**EA:** 30 Sep, Chau (RC). **LD:** 19 Nov, Chau (KR).

**PARASITIC JAEGER**

10 Sep - 4 Oct, Chau (\*m.ob.:ph.); 5-6 Nov (dark morph), Carl.L (\*, m.ob.). See next issue of *Meadowlark* for details.

**LONG-TAILED JAEGER**

10-24 Sep, Chau (CO, KR, LA, DO:ph., m.ob.:ph.) — **second state record**. See next issue of *Meadowlark* for details.

**Jaeger, sp.**

Included here are unidentified Jaegers as well as birds reported as identified but lacking documentation. **EA/MC:** 2 (imm., reported as Parasitic), JP, 2 Sep (MS). **Others:** 4 Sep, JP (MS); 4 Sep, Wilmette (RH, EW); 5 Sep (imm.), IBSP (SB); 14 Sep, GrtLakes (CF); 24 Sep (reported as imm. Parasitic), Wilmette (DJ et al.); 28 Oct, Wilmette (RH); undated report of ad. Parasitic Jaeger, IBSP (AS, RE).

**Laughing Gull**

**EA:** summer to early Aug (imm.), Carl.L (DK); 13 Aug, LCal (UG, m.ob.). **MC:** 3 (1 ad., 2 imm.), Carl.L, 23 Sep (DK, KM, IOS). **LD:** 10 Sep - 28 Oct (imm.), Carl.L (DK:ph., RC, m.ob.); 13-29 Oct (imm.), Linc.P (JL:ph., GW).

**Franklin's Gull**

**EA:** 17 Aug, Clin.L (RC); 9 Sep (6), Mermet L (FB). **MC:** 75,

Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM); 33, Chau, 27 Oct (R&SBj); 6, Linc.P, 14 Nov (GW). **LD:** 19 Nov (2), Danville (Vermilion Co) (RC).

**Others:** 23 Sep (1st-winter), Evanston (EW:ph.); 23 Sep, Fermi (UG); 3 Nov, Fermi (JP).

**Bonaparte's Gull**

**EA:** 14 Jul, GrtLakes (EW); 11 Aug (imm.), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 1050, Carl.L, 5 Nov (KM, DK, FB); 1050, LSNucPlnt (DJS); 800, Clin.L, 14 Nov (RC); 520, SandRdg, 16 Nov (R&SBj); 79, Evanston, 21 Oct (EW).

**Ring-billed Gull**

**EA:** 14 Aug (400), HL (JZ). **MC:** 3600, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM); 2759, Chau, 5 Oct (R&SBj); 1300+, JP, 24 Sep (KC).

**CALIFORNIA GULL**

**EA:** 28 Oct (ad.), Batavia (\*JSi).

**Herring Gull**

**EA:** 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM). **MC:** 185, GrantP, 21 Nov (DFS).

**Thayer's Gull**

**EA:** 1 Nov (ad.), GrantP (DFS). **Others:** 8 north.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull**

**EA:** 9 Sep (3rd-summer), Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (C&JMc). **MC:** 3, Grayslake (Lake Co), 27 Nov (RP). **Others:** 2 south; 2 central; 10 north.

**Glaucous Gull**

**EA:** 30 Nov (1st-year), Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH).

**Great Black-backed Gull**

**EA:** 19-26 Aug (ad., probably summered), GrtLakes (AS, GW, SH). **Others:** 6 north.

**Sabine's Gull**

**EA:** 22 Sep, Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 5, Carl.L, 23 Sep (IOS); 3, Mel Price Lock & Dam (Madison Co), 4 Oct (FH:ph. of ad.)- -at least one present from 30 Sep - 17 Oct. **LD:** 12 Oct (ad.), Carl.L (EK).

**Caspian Tern**

**EA:** 25 Jun, Evanston (EW); 29 Jun (ad.), Santa Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co) (DK). **MC:** 80, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co), 8 Sep (JH); 60, Carl.L, 11 Aug (DK); 36, GrtLakes, 26 Aug (PS).



*Laughing Gull in first-winter plumage. 13 October 2000. Chicago's Montrose Harbor. Photo by Eric Walters.*



**LD:** 23 Oct, Carl.L (KM); 4 Oct (3 — 2 ad., 1 imm.), Wilmette (EW).

**Common Tern**

**EA:** 5 Jul (2 ad.), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 9, Rend L, 8 Nov (LS). **LD:** 15 Nov (2), Rend L (LS). **Others:** 34 (failed colony), GrtLakes, 8 Jul.

**Forster's Tern**

**EA:** 29 Jul (10), Carl.L (KM, DK, FB). **MC:** 26, GrtLakes, 14 Jul (EW); 15, Carl.L, 11 Aug (DK); 13, Evergreen L (McLean Co), 12 Sep (MR). **LD:** 3 Nov (3), Carl.L (DK); 22 Oct, Linc.P (AS).

**Least Tern**

**MC:** 3, HL, 6-9 Aug (KM, m.ob.). **LD:** 23 Aug, HL (FH).

**Black Tern**

**EA:** 11 Jul (2 ad.), Heyworth (McLean Co) (MR). **MC:** 112, Carl.L, 7 Aug (DK). **LD:** 24 Sep, Wilmette (DJ); 23 Sep (3), Carl.L, (CA et al.); 12 Sep, Evergreen L (McLean Co) (MR).

**Rock Dove**

**MC:** 720, s. Cook Co, 24 Nov (DFS).

**EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE**

**MC:** 11, Carl.L, 29 Oct - 26 Nov (\*DK, \*m.ob.). **Others** (undocumented): 4 Aug, Metropolis (Massac Co); 12 Aug, Shawnee College (Pulaski Co); 6 Sep, Massac Co; 8 Sep (3), Metropolis (Massac Co); occasional sightings around Urbana (m.ob.).

**Mourning Dove**

**MC:** 150, Clinton Co, 20 Oct (KM); 140, La Salle Co, 19 Aug (DFS); 100, Vance Township (Vermilion Co), 30 Nov (JOS).

**Monk Parakeet**

**MC:** 34, JP, 19 Nov (PC); 27, LCal (Hegewisch), 3 Sep (WJM); 16, Addison (Du Page Co), 3 Sep (UG).

**Black-billed Cuckoo**

**EA:** 10 Aug, Rockford (Winnebago Co) (DW). **LD:** 3 Nov, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co) (LS) — **record late date** by three days; 2 Oct, Putnam Co (DFS).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

**EA:** 25 Aug, IBSP (DJ). **MC:** 8, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM); 4, Bureau/Putnam Cos, 2 Oct (DFS); 3, JP, 20 Sep (KC, PC); 3, IBSP, 19 Aug (SH). **LD:** 14 Oct (2), Carl.L (DK); 14 Oct (2), Siloam Springs SP (Adams/Brown Cos) (UG); 14 Oct, Putnam Co (DFS).

**Barn Owl**

1 Oct, Linc.P (North Pond) (JV, \*GW, m.ob., AT:ph.); 18 Nov, IBSP (\*, m.ob.) — pending IORC review. One undocumented report from McHenry Co.

**Eastern Screech-Owl**

**MC:** 12, Frisco (Franklin Co), 7 Nov (LS).

**Great Horned Owl**

**EA:** 21 Nov, Linc.P (GW). **MC:** 8, Carl.L, 5 Nov (KM, DK, FB); 4, Vance Township (Vermilion Co), all fall (JOS).

**Snowy Owl**

**EA:** 27 Oct - 24 Nov (female), Linc.P (JL, CA, m.ob.). **Others:** 18 Nov (found dead), near Byron (Ogle Co) (\*\*specimen to Burpee Museum, to be displayed at Byron FP nature center, fide DW); 27 Nov, GrantP (Meigs Airport) (GW).

**Barred Owl**

**MC:** 5, Carl.L, 1 Oct (KM, FB, DK); 5, Chinquapin Bluffs (Woodford Co), 7 Aug (MF).

**Long-eared Owl**

None reported this fall.

**Short-eared Owl**

**EA:** 24 Sep, Wilmette (DJ); 8 Oct, El Paso (Woodford Co) (BD); 18 Oct, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co) (LS). **MC:** 21, IBSP, 4 Nov (PS, SH) — **record fall high count**.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl**

**EA:** 27 Oct (2), Colored Sand FP (Winnebago Co) (SR, SB, SD); 4 Nov (2), Hamilton Co (LS). **Others:** 22 Nov, Middle Fork State FWA (Vermilion Co) (SB); 29 Nov, Frisco (Franklin Co) (LS); 30 Nov, MacArthur Woods (Lake Co) (\*\*DJ — road-kill salvaged to Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago).

**Common Nighthawk**

**EA:** 25 Aug (7), Kaneville (Kane Co) (DJS). **MC:** 818, Palatine (Cook Co), 1 Sep (CF); 600+, Schaumburg (Cook Co), 15 Sep (AA); 200, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC). **LD:** 23 Oct, West Frankfort (Franklin Co) (LS); 13 Oct, IBSP (DFS).

**Whip-poor-will**

**LD:** 9 Sep, IBSP (DJ); 19 Aug, Carl.L (DK, KM, FB).

**Chimney Swift**

**MC:** 4000+, Rockford (Winnebago Co), 20 Sep (DW); 800, JP, 8 Sep (PC); 300, Urbana, 2 Oct (RC); 200, HL, 21 Sep (KM). **LD:** 19 Oct, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (KM); 15 Oct, Urbana (RC); 14 Oct (16), Putnam Co (DFS); 14 Oct (4), IBSP (DJ).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

**EA:** 15 Aug (2), Downers Grove (Du Page Co) (UG). **MC:** 40+, West Frankfort (Franklin Co), 23 Sep (LS); 11 (female/imm.), CBG, 9 Sep (AA). **LD:** 22 Oct, West Frankfort (Franklin Co) (LS); 16 Oct (female), Vance Township (Vermilion Co) (JOS); 5 Oct, CBG (MM).

**RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD**

22 Oct - 21 Nov, East Alton (Madison Co) (JE:ph., FH:ph., m.ob., banded by CH); 16-21 Nov, Spfld (m.ob.:ph. — features in photo thought to be diagnostic) — subject to IORC review.



*Eurasian Collared-Dove. 21 September 2000. Oakford, IL. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.*



**Belted Kingfisher**

MC: 4, SandRdg, 17 Aug (R&SBj); 4, Carl.L, 9 Sep (KM).

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

EA: 6 Sep (3 imm.), JP (PC, BWH). MC: 27, e. Kankakee Co, 17 Oct (DFS).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

MC: 28, Bureau/Putnam Cos, 2 Oct (DFS) — highest fall count in recent Illinois journals; 19, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

EA: 15 Sep (imm.), JP (PC); 24 Sep, Chau (RC et al.); 30 Sep, Pine Ridge Natural Area (Union Co) (RM). MC: 16, GrantP, 12 Oct (DFS); 9, Urbana, 4 Oct (RC). LD: 2 Dec (3), Union Co (KM, FB, DK); 27 Nov (2), Urbana (RC); 25 Oct, Linc.P (GW).

**Downy Woodpecker**

MC: 30, Bureau/Putnam Cos, 2 Oct (DFS) — highest fall count in recent Illinois journals; 12, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM).

**Hairy Woodpecker**

MC: 11, Bureau/Putnam Cos, 2 Oct (DFS) — highest fall count in recent Illinois journals.

**RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER**

19 Aug - end of period, IBSP (\*AS, \*RE, \*PS, m.ob.:ph.). An utterly unexpected **first state record**. See article in this issue.

**Northern Flicker**

EA: 4 Sep, JP (PC). MC: 32, Bureau/Putnam Cos, 2 Oct (DFS); 13, JP, 20 Sep (PC, BWH); 11, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM).

**Pileated Woodpecker**

MC: 3, UCCA, 2 Dec (DK, KM, FB).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher**

EA: 12 Aug, SandRdg (EC). MC: 2, IBSP, 20 Aug (RC); 2, LaBagh Woods FP (Cook Co), 4 Sep (GW); 2, JP, 27 Aug (PC). LD: **11 Oct** (imm.), Lake Forest (Lake Co) (\*JSu, \*WJM) — **record late date by six days**.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

EA: 27 Aug, JP (PC). MC: 12, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM); 7, JP, 12 Sep (PC). LD: 14 Oct (2), Putnam Co (DFS); 14 Oct, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**

EA: 11 Aug, JP (PC); 27 Aug, Carl.L (DK). MC: 2, JP, 7 Sep (PC). LD: 2 Oct, Putnam Co (DFS); 24 Sep (male), JP (PC).

**Acadian Flycatcher**

LD: 19 Sep, Carl.L (DK, FB, KM).

**Alder Flycatcher**

EA: 18 Aug, Carl.L (DK, FB, KM). LD: 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM); 12 Sep, JP (PC); 4 Sep, Chau (RC).

**Willow Flycatcher**

LD: 23 Sep, Carl.L (KM, IOS); 3 Sep, Hidden L FP (Du Page Co) (UG).

**“Traill’s” Flycatcher**

LD: **17 Oct**, se. Kankakee Co (\*DFS) — **record late date** (latest previous is an Alder Flycatcher specimen from 7 Oct 1959).

**Least Flycatcher**

EA: 12 Aug, JP (MS); 13 Aug, Urbana (RC). MC: 12, IBSP, 26 Aug (RC). LD: 18 Oct, JP (PC); 4 Oct, Urbana (RC); 23 Sep, Fermi (UG).

**Eastern Phoebe**

EA: 20 Aug, Chi (KW). MC: 9, JP, 8 Oct (KC); 6, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). LD: 3 Dec, Rockford (Winnebago Co) (DW).

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

EA: 5 Sep, JP (KC). MC: 3, JP, 6 Sep (PC, BWH). LD: 7 Oct, East Peoria (Tazewell Co) (C&JMc); 13 Sep, Herrick L FP (Du Page Co) (UG); 13 Sep, JP (PC).

**Western Kingbird**

EA: 31 Aug, Streator (La Salle Co) (DG). LD: 30 Sep (same as preceding), Streator (La Salle Co) (DG); 10 Sep, Linc.P (GW, AS, JL, m.ob.). **Other (breeding population departure):** 24 Aug (imm.), Madison Co (JZ).

**Eastern Kingbird**

MC: 30, Clin.L, 12 Sep (RC); 30, Carl.L, 4 Sep (DK). LD: 13 Sep, McKee Marsh (Du Page Co) (UG).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**

Six dates, but at least the last five likely apply to same individual (per DK): 19 Aug, Carl.L (east side) (DK, KM, FB); 9- 10 Sep (same bird as 19 Aug?), Carl.L (east side) (\*DK:ph., \*RC); 24-25 Sep, Carl.L (near spillway) (KM et al.); 9 Oct, Carl.L (pump station #2) (DK).

**Loggerhead Shrike**

EA (north): 20 Aug, Fermi (JP). MC: 6, Carl.L, 19 Aug (DK, KM, FB). LD: 26 Nov, Shattuc Rd (Clinton Co) (DK). **Others:** 14 Oct, Sullivan (Moultrie Co) (RC); 5 south.

**Northern Shrike**

EA: 17 Oct, Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB). **Others:** 3-5 Nov, IBSP (PS); 15 Nov, Pratts Wayne Woods FP (Du Page Co) (JP); 19 Nov, Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co) (CF); 21 Nov, Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB); 23 Nov, CBG (AS); 23 Nov, Fermi (UG); 25 Nov, IBSP (SB, SD).

**White-eyed Vireo**

EA: 4 Sep, Carl.L (DK). MC: 5, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). LD: 1 Oct, Carl.L (DK, FB, KM); 16 Sep, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co) (UG).

**Bell’s Vireo**

LD: 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM).

**Yellow-throated Vireo**

EA: **19 Aug**, Millbrook (Kendall Co) (DFS) — **record early arrival** by three days; 27 Aug, Urbana (RC). MC: 5, JP, 20 Sep (BWH, PC); 4, Spfld, 2 Sep (RC). LD: 5 Oct, Half Day FP (Lake Co) (PS).

**Blue-headed Vireo**

EA: 8 Sep, JP (PC); 10 Sep, Carl.L (RC). MC: 7, Des Plaines (Cook Co), 20 Sep (AA). LD: 25 Oct (2), JP (PC).

**Warbling Vireo**

MC: 6, JP, 7 Sep (BWH, PC); 3, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). LD: 2 Oct, Bureau Co (DFS).

**Philadelphia Vireo**

EA: 22 Aug, JP (KC); 3 Sep, Urbana (RC). MC: 5, JP, 20 Sep (BWH, PC); 3, McDowell Grove FP (Du Page Co), 24 Sep (UG). LD: 8 Oct, Linc.P (MM); 6 Oct, Carl.L (KM).

**Red-eyed Vireo**

EA: 22 Aug, JP (JR). MC: 10, Urbana, 27 Aug, Urbana (RC); 7, JP, 8 Sep (PC). LD: 14 Oct, IBSP (DJ); 6 Oct (3), Carl.L (KM).

**Blue Jay**

EA: 1 Sep (4), JP (PC). MC: 148, e. Kankakee Co, 17 Oct (DFS); 62, Carl.L, 6 Oct (KM).

**American Crow**

MC: 200, IBSP, 22 Sep (LH); 100, O’Fallon (St. Clair Co), 29 Oct (KM).

**Fish Crow**

MC: 15, Carbondale (Jackson Co), 5 Sep (RM).

**Horned Lark**

MC: 190, e. Kankakee Co, 12 Aug (DFS); 42, Carl.L, 19 Aug (KM, FB, DK); 12, IBSP, 27 Oct (EW).

**Purple Martin**

EA: **18 Jun** (12 — 3 males), Evanston (EW) — **record early arrival by six days**. MC: 1200, Union Co, 29 Jul (KM, DK, FB); 1000+, Rice L Conservation Area (Fulton Co), 30 Jul

(RC). **LD:** 16 Sep, Carl.L (KM); 14 Sep, JP (PC). Onset of fall migration is poorly reported in Illinois literature, but early summer movements such as this year's are consistent with findings in fascicle #287 (1997) of The Philadelphia Academy of Sciences series, *The Birds of North America*.

#### **Tree Swallow**

**MC:** 100,000, Carl.L, 8 Oct (DK); 10,000+, Clin.L, 21 Oct (RC). **LD:** 12 Nov, Clin.L (RC); 12 Nov (12), Carl.L (DK).

#### **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**

**EA:** 9 Jul (9), Evanston (EW). **MC:** 120, Sanganois State Wildlife Area (Mason Co), 17 Jul (KM). **LD:** 14 Oct (8), Putnam Co (DFS).

#### **Bank Swallow**

**EA:** 8 Jul (6), Evanston (EW). **MC:** 4000+, Chau, 6 Aug (RC); 485, e. Kankakee Co, 12 Aug (DFS). **LD:** 1 Oct, Carl.L (KM, FB, DK).

#### **Cliff Swallow**

**MC:** 50, Chau, 14 Sep (KM). **LD:** 1 Oct, Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 17 Sep, Fermi (JP).

#### **Barn Swallow**

**MC:** 140, e. Kankakee Co, 12 Aug (DFS); 74, JP, 20 Aug (PC); 56, Carl.L, 25 Sep (KM). **LD:** 18 Nov, Clin.L (RC); 7- 12 Nov (2), Clin.L (RC, m.ob.); 28 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 14 Oct, CBG (AA); 14 Oct (2), IBSP (DJ). **Others:** 19 Sep (albino), Rockford (Winnebago Co) (DW).

#### **Carolina Chickadee**

**MC:** 23, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM).

#### **Black-capped Chickadee**

**EA:** 12 Sep (5), Wilmette (EW). **MC:** 81, Bureau/Putnam Cos, 2 Oct (DFS) — second highest fall season count in Illinois journals; 34, IBSP, 6 Oct (EW).

#### **Tufted Titmouse**

**MC:** 23, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM); 16, Bureau/Putnam Cos, 2 Oct (DFS).

#### **Red-breasted Nuthatch**

**EA:** 19 Aug, IBSP (SH). **MC:** 9, JP, 15 Sep (PC); 8, White Pines Forest SP (Ogle Co), 24 Nov (EW, JIE).

#### **White-breasted Nuthatch**

**MC:** 23, Bureau/Putnam Cos, 2 Oct (DFS); 9, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM).

#### **Brown Creeper**

**EA:** 1 Sep (breeding?), Half Day FP (Lake Co) (PS); 16 Sep, JP (PC); 30 Sep, Granite City (FH). **MC:** 20, IBSP, 25 Sep (DJ). **LD (north):** 23 Nov, Evanston (EW, JIE).

#### **Carolina Wren**

**MC:** 14, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM); 6, Bureau Co, 2 Oct (DFS). **Others (north):** 24 Oct, GrtLakes (CF).

#### **House Wren**

**MC:** 6, Carl.L, 6 Oct (KM). **LD:** 23 Oct, Checkrow (Fulton Co) (LH); 8 Oct, Linc.P (GW).

#### **Winter Wren**

**EA:** 9 Sep, Downers Grove (Du Page Co) (UG); 17 Sep, Urbana (RC); 24 Sep, HL (FH). **MC:** 23, JP, 25 Sep (PC) — second highest fall count on record; 6, Carl.L, 6 Oct (KM). **LD:** 19 Nov (2), JP (PC).

#### **Sedge Wren**

**EA:** 30 Jul, Chain of Rocks (Madison Co) (KM). **MC:** 5, Matthiessen SP (La Salle Co), 19 Aug (C&JMc). **LD:** 25 Oct, JP (KC, PC); 23 Oct, Carl.L (KM). It seems likely that all "early arrivals" from July and most from August apply to post-breeding dispersants rather than true migrants (PC).

#### **Marsh Wren**

**EA:** 8 Sep, Wilmette (EW). **MC:** 3, Linc.P, 4 Oct (GW). **LD:** 5 Nov, Arcola (Douglas Co) (RC); 5 Nov, Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 21 Oct (2), Evanston (EW); 21 Oct, Linc.P (GW); 21

Oct, JP (KC). **Others:** 13 Aug (resident?), Arcola (Douglas Co) (RC).

#### **Golden-crowned Kinglet**

**EA:** 16 Sep, IBSP (CF); 30 Sep, Chau (RC); 1 Oct, Carl.L (KM, DK, FB); 1 Oct, HL (FB). **MC:** 110, Urbana, 4 Nov (RC); 52, JP, 25 Oct (PC, BWH); 50, IBSP, 25 Sep (MM).

#### **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

**EA:** 6 Sep, Half Day FP (Lake Co) (PS); 12 Sep, Urbana (RC); 19 Sep, Carl.L (KM). **MC:** 57, CBG, 5 Oct (MM); 22, Carl.L, 6 Oct (KM). **LD:** 2 Dec, UCCA (KM, FB, DK); 17 Nov, Chi (AA).

#### **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

**EA:** 19 Aug, IBSP (PS). **MC:** 3 (resident), Jersey Co, 19 Aug (KM, FB, DK). **LD:** 23 Sep, IBSP (PS).

#### **Eastern Bluebird**

**MC:** 41, Monroe Co, 30 Sep (JZ); 36, Bureau Co, 2 Oct (DFS); 27, IBSP, 30 Sep (DH, EW). **LD (north):** 2 Dec, Palos (CT).

#### **Veery**

**EA:** 24 Aug, Urbana (RC); 9 Sep, Carl.L (KM). **MC:** 7, JP, 12 Sep (PC); 5, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC). **LD:** 10 Oct, Urbana (RC) — third latest departure on record; 26 Sep, Linc.P (GW).

#### **Gray-checked Thrush**

**EA:** 30 Aug, JP (PC); 9 Sep, Urbana (RC); 10 Sep, Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 24, JP, 12 Sep (PC). **LD:** 16 Oct, Fulton Co (LH); 3 Oct, JP (KC).

#### **Swainson's Thrush**

**EA:** 24 Aug, Urbana (RC). **MC:** 2834+ (most visible and audible in a narrow stream of flight past a fixed point), JP, 12 Sep (PC) — **record high count by over 1000 birds**; 40, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC); 13, Chi, 9 Sep (AA). **LD:** 17 Oct, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH).

#### **Hermit Thrush**

**EA:** 5 Aug (summered in area?), Downers Grove (Du Page Co) (RF); 23 Sep, JP (KC); 3 Oct, Granite City (FB); 4 Oct (5), Urbana (RC). **MC:** 142, GrantP, 12 Oct (DFS) — **record fall high count**; 10, Vance Township (Vermilion Co), 10 Oct (JOS). **LD (north):** 3 Dec, JP (PC).

#### **Wood Thrush**

**EA:** 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM). **LD:** 4 Nov, Urbana (RC).

#### **American Robin**

**MC:** 442, Palos, 22 Oct (WS); 300, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 30 Oct (KM); 200+, IBSP, 27 Oct (EW).

#### **Gray Catbird**

**EA:** 8 Sep, Wilmette (EW). **MC:** 46, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM); 28, Bureau Co, 2 Oct (DFS). **LD:** 28 Nov, St. Clair Co (KM); 25 Oct, Linc.P (GW).

#### **Northern Mockingbird**

**MC:** 3, Madison Co, 5 Nov (KM, DK, FB).

#### **Brown Thrasher**

**EA:** 22 Aug, JP (KC). **MC:** 12, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM); 6, JP, 22 Sep (PC, BWH). **LD (north):** 22 Oct, Van Patten Woods FP (Lake Co) (PS).

#### **European Starling**

**MC:** 800, Riverwoods (Lake Co), 1 Nov (EW).

#### **American Pipit**

**EA:** 23 Sep, IBSP (PS); 26 Sep, Chau (MR). **MC:** 240, Chiquapin Bluffs (Woodford Co), 11 Nov (MF); 20+, Royalton (Franklin Co), 20 Oct (LS). **LD:** 14 Nov (2), Wauk (EW).

#### **Cedar Waxwing**

**MC:** 2000, IBSP, 26 Aug (RC et al.); 1800, IBSP, 14 Oct (DJ); 250, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC); 156, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM); 150+, Rend L, 18 Nov (LS); 112, IBSP, 27 Oct (EW); 80, Carl.L, 4 Sep (DK).

**Blue-winged Warbler**

EA: 26 Aug, JP (GD). LD: 24 Sep, Chau (RC); 23 Sep, Carl.L (TB); 18 Sep, Half Day FP (Lake Co) (PS).

**Golden-winged Warbler**

EA: 18 Aug, Rock Cut SP (DW); 24 Aug, Parklands FP (McLean Co) (DB); 4 Sep (2), Carl.L (DK). MC: 4, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC); 4, JP, 12 Sep (PC). LD: 26 Sep, Evanston (MM); 23 Sep, Carl.L (KM, IOS). "Brewster's Warbler" — 13 & 17 Sep, Urbana (RC). "Lawrence's Warbler" — 12 Sep, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MH, MR).

**Tennessee Warbler**

EA: 17 Aug, Argonne National Laboratory (Du Page Co) (UG); 27 Aug (14), Urbana (RC). MC: **120+**, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC); **106**, JP, 8 Sep (PC); **60**, Carl.L, 4 Sep (DK) — **record fall high counts for central, northern, and southern Illinois**, respectively. LD: **4 Nov**, Urbana (RC) — latest departure since 1990; 21 Oct, McKee Marsh (Du Page Co) (UG); 21 Oct (5), Kane Co (DFS).

**Orange-crowned Warbler**

EA: 27 Sep, IBSP (DJ); 4 Oct (3), Urbana (RC); 9 Oct (3), Carl.L (DK). MC: 17, Urbana, 7 Oct (RC); 7, Chi, 10 Oct (MM); 6, Carl.L, 28 Oct (DK). LD: 7 Nov, Chi (CW). Undocumented reports prior to mid-September are omitted here.

**Nashville Warbler**

EA: 21 Aug, JP (SC); 10 Sep, Carl.L (DK). MC: 38, JP, 5 Sep (MS, PC); 10, Urbana, 4 Oct (RC); 8, Carl.L, 25 Sep (KM). LD: 23 Oct, Carl.L (KM); 22 Oct, JP (KC); 17 Oct, Clin.L (RC).

**Northern Parula**

EA: 19 Aug, Jersey Co (KM, DK, FB). LD: 1 Oct, Carl.L (DK, FB, KM); 1 Oct, McDowell Grove FP (Du Page Co) (UG).

**Yellow Warbler**

EA: 3 Aug (2), Linc.P (JL); 27 Aug, Urbana (RC). MC: 5, JP, 5 Sep (MS). LD: 27 Sep, JP (KC); 16 Sep (2 imm.), Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 12 Sep, Urbana (RC).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler**

EA: 12 Aug, SandRdg (EC). MC: **30**, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC) — **record fall high count**; 14, JP, 20 Sep (PC, BWH); 12, Carl.L, 9 Sep (KM). LD: 10 Oct, Urbana (RC); 28 Sep, JP (KA).

**Magnolia Warbler**

EA: 20 Aug (imm. female), JP (PC); 27 Aug (3), Urbana (RC); 4 Sep (2), Carl.L (DK). MC: 36, JP, 12 Sep (PC); 20, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC); 10, Carl.L, 25 Sep (KM). LD: 23 Oct, Carl.L (KM); 21 Oct, Kane Co (DFS).

**Cape May Warbler**

EA: **16 Aug**, Urbana (GL) — record early arrival outside ne. Illinois. MC: 22, JP, 8 Sep (PC); 11, Wilmette, 8 Sep (EW). LD: **1 Nov - 8 Dec** (found dead on 8 Dec), Harvard (McHenry Co) (DF); 25 Oct, Linc.P (GW); 19 Oct, Anderson L State FWA (Fulton Co) (LH).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**

EA: 27 Aug (ad. female), Urbana (RC). MC: 3 (2 female, 1 male), Urbana, 26 Sep (RC et al.); 3, JP, 6 Sep (BWH, PC); 3, JP, 27 Sep (KC, PC). LD: 14 Oct, JP (fide PC); 1 Oct (male), Urbana (RC, m.ob.). **Others (downstate)**: 30 Aug (ad. male), Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR); 5 Sep (imm. male), Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR); 12 Sep (female), Urbana (RC); 23 Sep, Carl.L (RM, IOS); 25 Sep (male), Urbana (RC).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

EA: 26 Aug, Linc.P (UG); 16 Sep, Chau (RC). MC: **750+**, Des Plaines (Cook Co), 3 Oct (AA); 200, Carl.L, 9 Oct (DK); 175, Putnam Co, 14 Oct (DFS); 150, Urbana, 7 Oct (RC). LD (**north**): 2 Dec, Deer Grove East FP (Cook Co) (CF).

**Black-throated Green Warbler**

EA: 26 Aug, Linc.P (UG); 26 Aug, JP (KC, GD); 27 Aug, Urbana (RC); 4 Sep (2), Carl.L (DK). MC: 20, Urbana, 1 Oct (RC); 12, Carl.L, 9 Sep (KM); 7, JP, 20 Sep (BWH, PC). LD: 14 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 3 Oct, JP (KC).

**Blackburnian Warbler**

EA: 22 Aug, JP (KC); 27 Aug, Urbana (RC); 4 Sep, Carl.L (DK). MC: 12, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC). LD: 1 Oct (2), Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 27 Sep, Argonne National Laboratory (Du Page Co) (UG).

**Yellow-throated Warbler**

LD: 30 Sep, Monroe Co (JZ).

**Pine Warbler**

EA: 5 Sep (2), JP (MS); 11 Sep, Argyle L SP (McDonough Co) (JGR); 25 Sep, Urbana (RC). LD: 19 Oct, GrantP (DFS).

**Prairie Warbler**

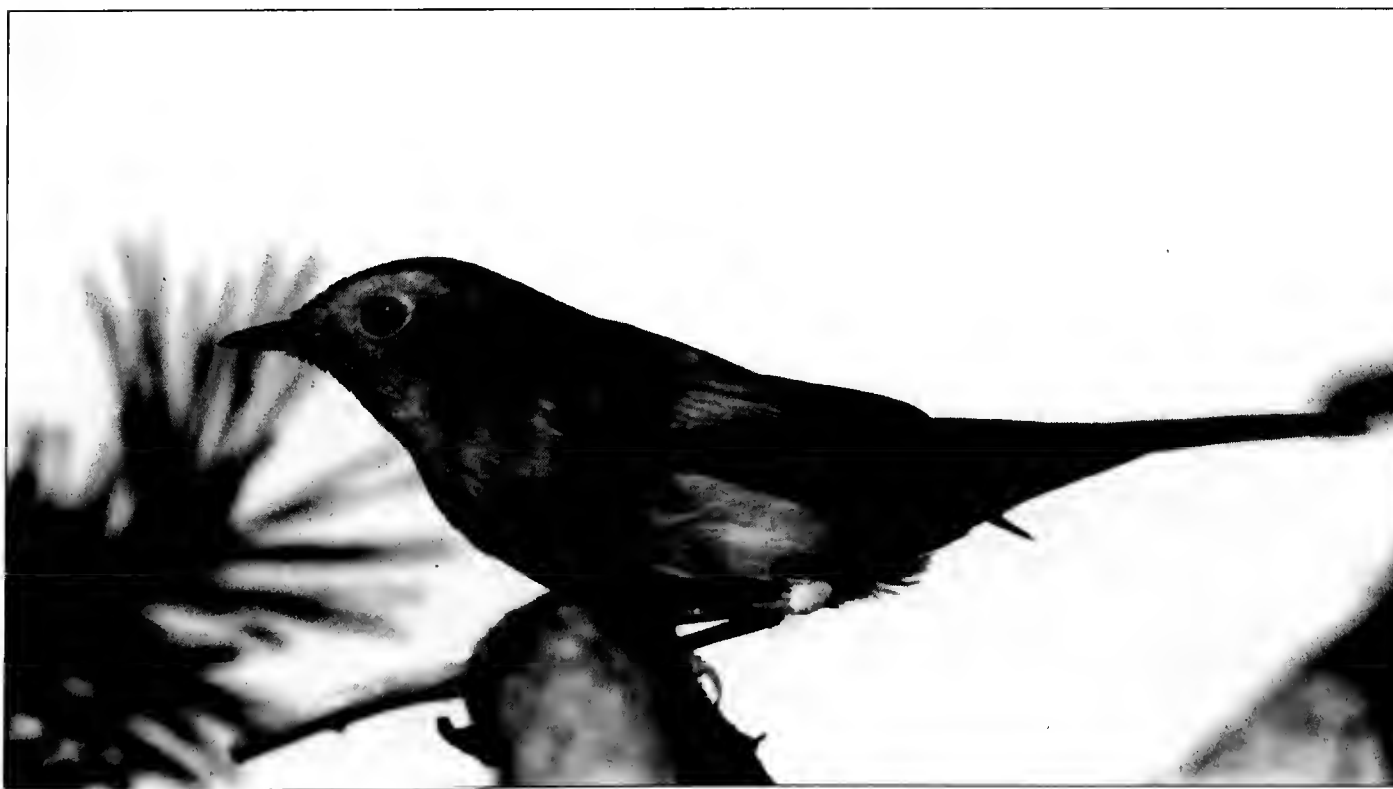
A report of a very late (mid-Oct) single in central Illinois was undocumented.

**Palm Warbler**

EA: 26 Aug, IBSP (GW, PS); 9 Sep, Carl.L (KM). MC: 140+, Des Plaines (Cook Co), 20 Sep (AA). LD: 30 Nov, Urbana (GL); 29 Oct, Chi (AA).

**Bay-breasted Warbler**

EA: 19 Aug, IBSP (PS); 5 Sep, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR). MC: 27, JP, 20 Sep (PC, BWH); 6, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC); 6, Chau, 14 Sep (KM, KR, LA).



Wilson's Warbler. 7 September 2000. Illinois Beach State Park, Lake County. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

**LD:** 14 Oct, Putnam Co (DFS).

**Blackpoll Warbler**

**EA:** 24 Aug, JP (SF); 12 Sep (3), Urbana (RC). **MC:** 24, Wilmette, 8 Sep (EW). **LD:** 13 Oct, Des Plaines (Cook Co) (AA); 4 Oct, Urbana (RC); 30 Sep, Carl.L (DK).

**Cerulean Warbler**

**EA:** 19 Aug, Millbrook (Kendall Co) (DFS). **LD:** 16 Sep, Rockford (Winnebago Co) (DW); 12 Sep, Urbana (RC).

**Black-and-white Warbler**

**EA:** 19 Aug, Yorkville (Kendall Co) (DFS); 27 Aug (6), Urbana (RC); 4 Sep, Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 18, JP, 20 Sep (BWH, PC) — second highest fall count. **LD:** 4 Oct, Urbana (RC); 1 Oct, Carl.L (DK, FB, KM); 28 Sep, Half Day FP (Lake Co) (PS).

**American Redstart**

**EA:** 30 Jul, Urbana (GL) — record early for central Illinois; 16 Aug (female), JP (PC). **MC:** 61, JP, 12 Sep (PC); 60, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC); 11, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). **LD:** 15 Oct, Urbana (RC); 14 Oct, Putnam Co (DFS); 8 Oct, Fermi (UG).

**Prothonotary Warbler**

**LD:** 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM).

**Ovenbird**

**EA:** 19 Aug, JP (MS). **MC:** 31, JP, 12 Sep (PC); 12, Parklands FP (McLean Co), 24 Aug (DB). **LD:** 17 Oct, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH).

**Northern Waterthrush**

**EA:** 16 Aug, Moraine Hills SP (McHenry Co) (PS); 29 Aug, Normal (McLean Co) (DB); 9 Sep, Carl.L (KM). **MC:** 34, JP, 12 Sep (PC) — second highest fall count. **LD:** 28 Oct - 1 Nov, Wilmette (EW); 27 Oct, Urbana (DT).

**Kentucky Warbler**

**LD:** 23 Sep, Carl.L (CA, m.ob.).

**Connecticut Warbler**

**EA:** 7 Sep, Half Day FP (PS); 12 Sep, Urbana (RC). **MC:** 3, JP, 12 Sep (PC). **LD:** 29 Sep, HL (TB); 25 Sep, Deer Grove East FP (Cook Co) (CF).

**Mourning Warbler**

**EA:** 24 Aug, JP (KC); 27 Aug, Urbana (RC). **MC:** 4, JP, 30 Aug (PC et al.). **LD:** 25 Sep, Urbana (RC); 15 Sep (male), JP (PC); 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM).

**Common Yellowthroat**

**EA:** 2 Sep (3), JP (MS). **MC:** 9, JP, 24 Sep (PC); 6, Carl.L, 10 Sep (DK). **LD:** 28 Oct, Carl.L (DK); 22 Oct, JP (KC).

**Wilson's Warbler**

**EA:** 20 Aug, JP (JL); 20 Aug, Chi (KW); 24 Aug, Parklands FP (McLean Co) (DB); 3 Sep, HL (FB). **MC:** 14, JP, 5 Sep (MS, PC) — record fall high count; 4, Urbana, 12 Sep (RC). **LD:** 13 Oct, Des Plaines (Cook Co) (AA); 9 Oct, Urbana (RC).

**Canada Warbler**

**EA:** 18 Aug, JP (JL); 23 Aug, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MF). **MC:** 3, JP, 12 Sep (PC). **LD:** 1 Oct, Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 24 Sep, McDowell Grove FP (Du Page Co) (UG).

**Yellow-breasted Chat**

**LD:** 27 Aug, Carl.L (DK).

**Summer Tanager**

**EA:** 3 Sep (female), Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co) (PS); 9 Sep, Carl.L (KM). **MC:** 3, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM). **LD:** 23 Oct, Carl.L (KM) — third latest on record.

**Scarlet Tanager**

**EA:** 6 Sep (female), JP (BWH, PC); 9 Sep, Carl.L (KM); 12 Sep, Urbana (RC). **MC:** 5, Urbana, 26 Sep (RC). **LD:** 15 Oct (male), JP (KC).

**Spotted Towhee**

29 Nov (female), Grundy Co (SB).

**Eastern Towhee**

**EA:** 15 Sep (3), Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co) (UG). **MC:** 11, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM); 11, IBSP, 14 Oct (DJ); 10, Clin.L, 17 Oct (RC).

**American Tree Sparrow**

**EA:** 4 Oct, IBSP (PS); 3 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 4 Nov, Urbana (RC). **MC:** 150+, CBG, 18 Nov (AA).

**Chipping Sparrow**

**EA:** 8 Sep (imm.), Wilmette (EW). **MC:** 75, Urbana, 7 Oct; 75, Rockford (Winnebago Co), 7 Oct (DW). **LD:** 29 Nov, Rockford (Winnebago Co) (DW); 25 Nov, Vance Township (Vermilion Co) (JOS).

**Clay-colored Sparrow**

**EA:** 30 Aug, Skokie LagoonsFP (Cook Co) (AA); 26 Sep, Urbana (RC). **MC:** 4, Linc.P, 10 Sep (GW, PS); 3, Linc.P, 15 Oct (CA). **LD:** 20 Nov, Champaign (Champaign Co) (MW). **Others (downstate):** 7 Oct, Urbana (RC); 13 Oct, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR); 21 Oct, Chau (KR, LA); 22 Oct, Urbana (RC).

**Field Sparrow**

**EA:** 16 Sep, JP (KC). **MC:** 16, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM). **LD (north):** 5 Nov, IBSP (PS et al.); 5 Nov, JP (PC, KC).

**Vesper Sparrow**

**EA:** 30 Sep, IBSP (AS, EW). **LD:** 12 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 4 Nov, Urbana (RC); 27 Oct, IBSP (EW).

**Savannah Sparrow**

**EA:** 15 Sep, Wilmette (EW); 24 Sep, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co) (LS). **MC:** 180+, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co), 1 & 3 Nov (LS); 19, IBSP, 27 Oct (EW). **LD:** 25 Nov, Carl.L (DK); 17 Nov, Chi (GW).

**Grasshopper Sparrow**

**EA:** 15 Oct, Evanston (EW); 22 Oct (imm.), Carl.L (DK). **LD:** 19 Nov, Linc.P (KH, UG).

**Henslow's Sparrow**

**EA:** 5 Oct, JP (KC). **LD:** 16 Oct, GrantP (DFS).

**Le Conte's Sparrow**

**EA:** 1 Oct (imm.), Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 8 Oct, JP (KC); 21 Oct, Clin.L (RC). **MC:** 15, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co), 1 & 3 Nov (LS) — record fall high count by four birds. **LD:** 26 Nov, HL (FH); 25-26 Nov, Carl.L (DK).

**Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow**

**EA:** 10 Sep, Linc.P (GW). **MC:** 3, IBSP, 7 Oct (SH). **LD:** 27 Oct, HL (FH); 21 Oct, Clin.L (RC); 21 Oct, Fermi (UG); 21 Oct (2), JP (KC).

**Fox Sparrow**

**EA:** 25 Sep, JP (PC); 6 Oct, Carl.L (KM). **MC:** 30, Urbana, 4 Nov (RC); 15, JP, 19 Oct (KC). **LD (north):** 20 Nov, Linc.P (GW).

**Song Sparrow**

**MC:** 111, Evanston, 15 Oct (EW) — record fall high count.

**Lincoln's Sparrow**

**EA:** 31 Aug, Linc.P (KM); 17 Sep, Urbana (RC). **MC:** 19, GrantP, 12 Oct (DFS); 10, Urbana, 7 Oct (RC). **LD:** 5 Nov, Carl.L (DK, KM, FB); 4 Nov, Urbana (RC); 4 Nov, Fermi (UG).

**Swamp Sparrow**

**EA:** 5 Sep, JP (MS); 4 Oct, Urbana (RC). **MC:** 500, Clin.L, 21 Oct (RC) — second highest single-party count on record; 44, GrantP, 16 Oct (DFS); 15, Carl.L, 5 Nov (KM, DK, FB).

**White-throated Sparrow**

**EA:** 27 Aug, Chi (KW); 1 Oct, Carl.L (KM, FB, DK). **MC:** 530, GrantP, 12 Oct (DFS); 500, Urbana, 7 Oct (RC); 42, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM).



**Harris's Sparrow**

**EA:** 7 Oct (ad.), Urbana (RC); 15 Oct, Linc.P (CA). **MC:** 2, Clin.L, 21 Oct (RC); 2, Bloomington (McLean Co), 28 Nov (HH, m.ob.). **LD:** 23-24 Nov, HL (FH, WR); 19 Nov, Orland P (Cook Co) (WS). **Others:** 21 Oct, Winnebago Co (DW); 2 Nov, Fermi (JP); 4 Nov, Urbana (RC).

**White-crowned Sparrow**

**EA:** 20 Sep (2), JP (PC, BWH); 20 Sep ("Gambel's" race), Chi (Olive P) (KW); 4 Oct, Urbana (RC). **MC:** 100, Clin.L, 21 Oct (RC); 86, GrantP, 16 Oct (DFS); 70, Urbana, 4 Nov (RC); 20, Carl.L, 5 Nov (KM, FB, DK).

**Dark-eyed Junco**

**EA:** 15 Sep, JP (DJJ); 1 Oct, SandRdg (R&SBj); 5 Oct, HL (KM). **MC:** 700, Urbana, 4 Nov (RC); 400, Clin.L, 4 Nov (RC); 385, GrantP, 19 Oct (DFS). "**Oregon Junco**" — 13 Oct (female), Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR); 4 Nov (male), Evanston (EW); 10 Nov, (male), Chiquapin Bluffs (Woodford Co) (MF); 12 Nov (male), Carl.L (DK:ph.).

**Lapland Longspur**

**EA:** 26 Sep, Chau (MR, HDB, DB); 5 Oct, CBG (MM); 8 Oct, Clin.L (RC). **MC:** 1000+, Carl.L, 12 Nov (DK).

**Smith's Longspur**

**EA:** 3 Nov (4), McDonough Co (JGR). **MC:** 17, McDonough Co, 11 Nov (JGR et al.) — **record fall high count**. **LD:** 14 Nov (8), McDonough Co (JGR).

**Snow Bunting**

**EA:** 28 Oct (33), IBSP (AS); 28 Oct, Linc.P (RC, UG); 14 Nov, Urbana (RC).

**Northern Cardinal**

**MC:** 58, e. Kankakee Co, 17 Oct (DFS); 48, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KM).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**

**EA:** 22 Aug, JP (KC); 4 Sep (4), Carl.L (DK). **MC:** 30, Urbana, 21 Sep (RC); 22, Carl.L, 12 Sep (KM); 15, JP, 20 Sep (PC). **LD:** 10 Oct, Urbana (RC); 6 Oct, Evanston (MM).

**Blue Grosbeak**

**LD:** 17 Sep, HL (FB); 12 Sep, Urbana (RC). **Others:** 22 Jul - Aug 7 (active nest site), E. St. Louis (St. Clair Co) (DK).

**Indigo Bunting**

**MC:** 120, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co), 5 Oct (LS) — **record fall high count by 70 birds**. **LD:** 23 Oct, Carl.L (KM); 15 Oct, Evanston (EW); 15 Oct, Fermi (PS).

**PAINTED BUNTING**

29 Jul - Aug 7 (male at active nest site), E. St. Louis (St. Clair Co) (\*DK:ph., KM, FB, m.ob.); 30 Jul - Aug 7 (female feeding 3 fledglings), E. St. Louis (St. Clair Co) (\*DK:ph., m.ob.).

**Dickcissel**

**MC:** 80+, sw. Franklin Co, 1 Sep (LS) — **an extraordinary fall high count** based on recent Illinois journals, where fall counts have not exceeded 14 birds, but see Bohlen 1989 for a roost of 485 birds in Illinois on 10 Aug 1918. **LD:** 16 Oct (2), Wayne Fitzgerrell SP (Franklin Co) (LS).

**Bobolink**

**EA:** 31 Aug, IBSP (KM); 5 Sep, Evergreen L (McLean Co) (MR). **MC:** 4, Carl.L, 16 Sep (KM); 4, JP, 20 Sep (PC, BWH). **LD:** 20 Sep, JP (PC). Low numbers.

**Red-winged Blackbird**

**MC:** 1500, Bureau Co, 2 Oct (DFS); 1375+, IBSP, 27 Oct (EW).

**Eastern Meadowlark**

**EA:** 3 Oct, JP (JR). **MC:** 40, Chiquapin Bluffs (Woodford Co), 11 Nov (MF); 23, Urbana, 23 Nov (RC); 23, s. Kankakee Co, 17 Oct (DFS); 22, Madison Co, 30 Sep (JZ).

**Western Meadowlark**

**LD:** 17 Oct (2), e. Kankakee Co (DFS).

**Yellow-headed Blackbird**

**LD:** 20 Sep, Lake Villa (Lake Co) (RB).

**Rusty Blackbird**

**EA:** 6 Oct, IBSP (EW); 14 Oct, LShel (RC). **MC:** 100+, Urbana, 14 Nov (RC); 75, Afton FP (De Kalb Co), 20 Oct (DJS); 16, LCal, 22 Oct (AS). **LD:** 28 Nov, St. Clair Co (KM); 17 Nov, IBSP (AS).

**Brewer's Blackbird**

**LD:** 21 Oct, Clin.L (RC). Reports of up to 50 birds in far e. Illinois merit documentation.

**Common Grackle**

**MC:** 100,000, Trenton (Clinton Co), 11 Nov (DK) — second highest fall count on record.

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

**MC:** 220, e. Kankakee Co, 17 Oct (DFS). **LD (north):** 14 Nov (10), IBSP (EW).

**Orchard Oriole**

**LD:** 19 Aug, Fishhook Wildlife Management Area (Moultrie Co) (RC); 19 Aug, HL (FB).

**Baltimore Oriole**

**MC:** 13, IBSP, 20 Aug (RC). **LD:** 12 Sep, Clin.L (RC); 12 Sep, Carl.L (KM); 5 Sep, JP (MS).

**Purple Finch**

**EA:** 12 Sep (4), Urbana (RC). **MC:** 40, IBSP, 27 Oct (EW); 30, Urbana, 28 Oct (RC). **LD:** 14 Nov, IBSP (EW).

**House Finch**

**MC:** 78, Putnam Co, 14 Oct (DFS); 50, Pulaski Co, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB); 50, Vance Township (Vermilion Co), all fall (JOS); 20, Evanston, 1 Oct (EW).

**Red Crossbill**

**EA:** 25 Sep, IBSP (DJ et al.). **MC:** 78, SandRdg, 24 Nov (EW et al.). **Others:** 12-18 Nov, Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co) (JP, m.ob.); 15 Nov, SandRdg (R&SBj); 30 Nov (male), Argyle L SP (McDonough Co) (JGR).

**Pine Siskin**

**EA:** 9 Sep, Palatine (Cook Co) (CF) — **record early arrival by five days** in wake of avian fallout the previous day; 7 Oct (7), Urbana & Mahomet (Champaign Co) (RC); 20 Oct, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (KM). **MC:** 100+, Clin.L, 11 Nov (RC); 36, Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co), 25 Nov (EW).

**American Goldfinch**

**MC:** 250, Pecatonica (Winnebago Co), 7 Oct (DW); 250, IBSP, 3 Oct (DJ); 20, Carl.L, 25 Oct (KM).

**House Sparrow**

**MC:** 320, Evanston, 1 Oct (EW); 200, Vance Township (Vermilion Co), all fall (JOS).

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow**

**MC:** 28, MTwain, 17 Sep (TB); 25, Chau, 14 Sep (KM). **Others:** 12 Nov, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) — range expansion eastward (KM).

**Exotics**

**Common Shelduck** — 19-26 Aug (imm.), HL (DK:ph., m.ob.).

**European Goldfinch** — 10 Oct, Chi (MM).

**Orange Bishop** — summer to 28 Oct+, Linc.P (JL, m.ob.).

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*Lone Sentinel. A Turkey Vulture rests on a wooden fence in northeastern Lake County, Illinois in September, 2000. Photo by Rob Dicker. Courtesy of Pioneer Press Newspapers.*